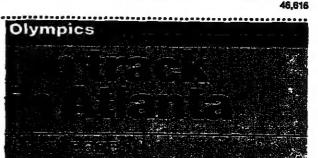


1 ne Guardia NEWSPAPER OF THE YEAR Printed in London, Manchester, Frankfurt and Roubaix

Outlook

Saturday July 27 1996

Joanna Coles meets Jacqui Lait





Competitors in Atlanta yesterday begin the 20km walk, the first athletics event of the Olympics. The race was won by Jefferson Perez of Ecuador Olympic reports, pages 10-12

PHOTOGRAPH: DOUG MILLS

had been tossed into a pig sty, probably by his killer. Mr Nichol's trump card.

though, will be the appearance of jury members. The ap-

new evidence might have

swayed the jury at trial. Tim O'Maley, now 48, the fore-man, and Lucinda Graham,

36, are both now convinced of the men's innocence. Two more jury members are said to think the same.

Fight for truth, page 2

Bridgewater Four appeal: Howard relents after campaign lasting 18 years

ICHAEL -Howard, the Home Secretary, sig-nalled a sursigof heart yesterday when he announced he was referring for the killing of newsboy Carl Bridgewater in 1978. Staffordshire police, which led the investigation, and the Director of Public Prosecu- opinion on a referral The

tions office are braced for an uncomfortable bearing. Lawyers representing the men are cartain to allege misconduct.

They will also point out that
the Home Secretary's decision
comes just before a legal chal-

comes just before a legal chal-lenge to his refusal to do so began in the High Court. Mr Howard said in a provisional ruling in December that he was "not minded" to refer the case. Yesterday, he said if was going back "on a fine balance of the arguments." It was the first time a Home Secretary has offered such an

hearing may not take place until next year. Ann Whelan, 53, mother of Michael Hickey, said: "I had come to believe that the Home

Office was not interested in right and wrong. This day is a victory and a triumph for justice. Everyone will see these men, after 18 years, totally exonerated."

Jim Nichol, the men's law-

Jim Nichol, the men's law-yer since 1983, was over-whelmed. "We have always kept a brave face full we baye had our dark days and there have been tears. This has been a long hard slog." The men's previous appeal lasted 41 days before it was rejected in March 1989. A wel-

ter of fresh evidence has since been gathered, although Kenneth Clarke, Mr Howard's predecessor, proclaimed the convictions safe and satisfacconvictions sate and satisfac-tory in February 1998.

Carl Bridgewater, 13, a newspaper delivery boy, was shot when he interrupted a burglary at Yew Tree Farm, Wordsley, Staffordshire, in September 1978. Had he lived, he would have been 31. Brian Bridgewater, his father, said force months ago: "Just occa-sionally, you can't help but think, I wonder what the boy

would be doing now?" "



The evidence

The prosecution case in ☐ Vincent Hickey's incriminating remarks

Pat Molloy's statement

☐ Prisoners' testimony of overheard conversations

The appeal in 1996: concocted, according to four experts and a forensic pyschiatrist commissioned for the Home Secretary ☐ Molloy was held for 56. hours without a solicit Detention records show discrepancies with detectives' testimon.

Two jury members □ Five the men are innocen
 □ Fingerprint evidence
 was withheld from defence
 □ At least five prosecution witnesses have recanted

was 15 at the time of the kill-ing and was detained at Her Majesty's Pleasure. Pat Molloy, a father of five, Vincent Hickey, 42, were jailed for life for murder at Stafford crown court in November 1979, with a recom-mendation they serve a mini-mum 25 years. Michael was given a 12-year ser for manslaughter. He died in prison from a brain hasmor-

His appeal will be addressed prints on Carl's bike, which with the others.

Molloy received a lesser sentence after making a statement admitting he was at the farm when Carl was shot, but claiming he was

The Molloy confession is at the centre of the referral. Four language experts back-Molloy's claims that it was a police fabrication. A forensic pyschiatrist called in on the Home Secretary's behalf

An internal Home Office document, published in the Guardian two years-ago, shows officials knew he had been held unlawfully for 56 hours without access to a solucitor. He said he was as licitor. He said he was as-saulted.

What appears to have swung the balance is the per-distance of Michael Chance, the lawyer in charge of the prosecution. He has written several times to Mr Howard since December, admitting the decision not to displaye fingerprint evidence was prej-udicial to the defence.

That evidence was released only in 1994 when Mr Nichol secured it through a High Court ruling. It shows police Hickey, 34, Vincent's cousin, Thags in June 1981, aged 53. Sound two unidentified finger-

Croats 'raped **British** soldiers'

kultan Borger in Sarejevo

mer Yugoslavia have been warned to take extra precautions against the threat of male rape after a eries of reported incidents in the Croatian port of Split on the Adriatic coast

As part of a standard introductory briefing, British troops arriving on their first tour at a Nato logistics base in Split this week were warned of the possibility of male rape and instructed not to leave base alone on evenings off.

"There have been a series of male rapes to recent weeks.

of male rapes in recent weeks. This is just to let you know. Don't take any chances," British military nurse told the newcomers.

led peace implementation force (I-For) said there had been only one case of a "poss-ible sexual assault" on a Brit-ish serviceman in the Split area. The spokesman, Major Edmund McMahon Turner said he thought the briefers had exaggerated the threat "to put the wind up new

Split serves as a supply base for I-For operations in Bosnia. It is the beadquarters for hundreds of British signals and engineering troops. The port city, built around a 3rd century Roman palace, is the hub of a string of resort stretching along the coast.

Maj McMahon Turner said a British soldier had reported being assaulted by two apparently Croatian men about a month ago after an evening out in Split. "There was the possibility of some form of sexual assault," he said, adding that it was not possible to give further de-tails while the local police carried out an investigation. He said there was no medical evidence of rape.

A British soldier who claimed to be a close col-league of a male-rape victim insisted that he knew of three Turn to page 3, column 4

Excuse me, I've just come to claim my free jump jet

ian Katz in New York

HEN Pepsi's adman dreamed up the idea of offering a Harrier jump jet as a spoof promotion, the company's executives roared with laughter. 'We all looked at it and said it's a great joke,' said PepsiCospokesman Brad Shaw.

great joke, said PepsiCo spokesman Brad Shaw.

But John Leonard, a business student aged 21, reacted differently when the advertisement was first screened in the Seattle area last winter. He and five investors wrote Pepsi a cheque for \$700,008.50 (about £450,000) and decapted and the points supposedly supposedly late Pepsi. Staff points supposedly late Pepsi. Staff points by contraction of merchanding a selection of merchanding a student pepsi a selection of merchanding a selection of merchanding a selection of merchanding a student pepsi a selection of merchanding a student pepsi a selection of merchanding a selection of merchanding a student pepsis and the pepsi a selection of merchanding a selection of merchanding a student pepsi a selection of merchanding a student pepsis a supplied a student pepsis a selection of merchanding a student pepsis and the pepsis and the boy emerges from the cockpit to declare. It sure beats taking the supplied and the boy emerges from the cockpit to declare. It sure beats taking the supplied and the boy emerges from the cockpit to declare. It sure beats taking the supplied and the suppl

required to claim the Harrier.
Pepsi promptly returned
the cheque, amouncing it
had no intention of giving Mr
Leonard a \$24 million miltary jet. "Everyone in the
country saw this commercial
and laughed," Mr Shaw said.
"This gare bired a lewyer." This guy hired a lawyer. The advert in question





A jump jet for seven million Pepsi Stuff points: 'We all thought it was a great joke'

lecting labels from Pepsi or 7 million points, Pepsi indirinks or buying them dissists it was clearly tongue in cheek.

Although the advert stated that the jet was redeemable want the prize I'm entitled to to a New York courtroom.

where the company is asking a federal judge to throw out Mr Leonard's claim as

mr Leonard's claim as
"frivolous".

But the student's lawyers
are promising a fight. "We're
talking integrity in advertising," Larry Schantz said.
"They advertised the promotion and our client complied,
and he should get his Harrier."

When the company heren. When the company began screening the advert nationally in April, the number of points required to claim the fighter was increased to 700 million. Pepsi insists the change was made before it received Mr Leonard's claim. Mr Shaw said there are no plans to pull the advert. "It's very funny."

Comment 14; Letters 16; Obituaries 20 Outlook

Arts 18; Money 21;

JUMP TO IT!



Ever wanted to do a parachute jump? Yes! - then call the number below to find out how YOU can make a thrilling 10,000 feet freefall parachute jump in aid of The National Deaf Children's Society. No experience is required as full training is given and if you raise the minimum amount of sponsorship you will receive your jump for FREE!

Call NOW for your FREE information pack on

The National Deaf Children's Society - Charity No 1016532



Master of the Holls

retake the jalls.

side/s score to 340.

'Raw deal' stirs passions on Isle of Wight

Sarah Boseley on an attempt by islanders, lumped in with the affluent South-east, to attract government money by a poll on cutting loose from the mainland

lity of its bucket and spade beaches, rolling fields and neat of Wight this summer in the run-up to a poll over indepen-

The Liberal Democrats who control the island's council say they are getting a raw deal from England, which has called the shots ever since it bought Wight in the 12th century from an aristocratic famforris Barton, the council leader who proposes cutting loose from the mainland once more, complains that the Government lumps the islanders in with the affluent South-east for economic ent South-east for economic purposes, depriving them of the subsidies and grants handed out to just about every other island in the UK and Europe.

"What we are really after is

"What we are really after is enterprise zone status within the UK. Every statistic we have shows us that we are worse off than areas in the UK that are getting that sort

He claimed it would bring in millions of pounds to spend

on the island.

If they cannot have a fair deal, Mr Barton says, he is prepared for the island to go and the Channel Islands, the tax-free haven, he believes, at tracting millionaires. "We have got to pursue every avenue to find some way of over-coming this blockage," he

"We have people in the City who are looking into it for us, and a director of the Bank of Bermuda is coming over." Taking Westminster on is

not proving easy. The Trea-sury has just forced the island to withdraw an ecu token it had minted for barter in som local shops — this was too much like a rival currency. The proposed referendum on devolution has also been

Councillors were advised they need Parliament's approval, so a Mori poll is being devolution and another on a

time that they look, to the ho-lidaymaking hordes, a healthy and happy crew. The island has neither inner-city slums nor the bleak climate of the remoter Orkneys to at-tract compassion. It has pleasant villas, tidy gardens (nearly a third of the population are over 60) and little crime. But it has the second lowest gross domestic product in the country, after South Glamorgan. Unemployment

dips in the summer, but is consistently high. It has twice the rate of youth unemployment of the South-east. Those who have got jobs are hadly paid. Last year, average male wages were 20 per cent below the national average. While pensioners move in, young

Islanders don't deny the problems, but are split over the solution. Many sympa-thise with the Tory MP Barry Field, who has ridiculed devolution talk: "A banana repub lic without bananas. A midsummer Wight's dream.

eaks from the heart. "This is for future generations for my grandchildren and ple's. I have got



The flag outside the Isle of Wight's biggest employer makes no secret of where its loyalty lies

family have lived here since 1300. If we aren't given the 1300 if we aren't given this choice, we will become this very elderly population of people who haven't got roots hare at all. This will be a Costa Brava-type resettle-

The island's Chamber of Commerce is wary of talk of tax havens. Peter Conway, its treasurer and the senior man-ager of Lloyds Bank, said: "We've got all four clearing here, with close links to the Bank of England, and I

Besides which, he points out, quoting the island's MP, Mr Fleid, there are about 50,000 people in work on the island, which receives some £160 million from Westminster. How would they make

But they are with Mr Bar ton in other ways. "We want money in and the way to do it is to have an enterprise zone. Wales has got."

Roy Westmore, leader of the tiny Conservative group on the council, said: "To start

have a choice of living here or somewhere else.

"My family and my wife's Besides which, he points island had recently won a £6 has lived on the island for 24 million regeneration grant from the Government, "and years.
"The idea of devolution is

we might get a hit more."

Mr Barton knows the bigest obstacle to his ideas is the nature of most islanders. They do not want change. don't even want a fixed to the mainland, voting the streets of Newport, Mr Barton's name raises only in-

credulous laughter.
"All those that I know are

crazy and I don't know any-one who doesn't think he's a nutter. If he ever becomes El Presidente, I'm back to the nainland ' "Words fail me," said Jean Hedgley. "It's absolutely stupid. We'd lose so much —

all our grants from the Gov ernment and our financial help. I didn't move here because I wanted to change my nationality. I'm British." "I don't think too many

idea," said Howard Kalley, a

supermarket manager.

Tim not really for it. And on the fixed link the island would definitely vote no because they think they will become a suburb Portsmouth."

So those who go there year after year, like National Heritage Secretary Virginia Bot-tomley and Tory MP Sir Norman Fowler, who both have holiday homes on the island, will as like as not find the drawbridge still down and the island not much changed from the days when Queen Victoria escaped there to her

The weather in Europe Midday today LOW Œ LOW 1000 Key Sunshine Cloudy Co Hall Showers Sunshine and Warm front Sunny intervals Occluded front Sieet M Thunder · · · · · Trough Snow

Around the world Forecast for the cities

European weather outlook

Switzerland:
The Friedan coast will be cloudy and damp, but it will be brighter and very warm over the rest of the Low Countries with good sunny periods. Northern Germany will also be bright and warm but Austria and Switzerland will be hot and sticky with sunshine and scattered thundery rain. Highs 19-30C.

Praces:
South Appetent France should be a few thunder.

showers, but there will also be spelle of hot sun-shine. Further north it will be mostly dry and quite Spain and Perbugait

Spain and Perbugait

Eastern Catalonia will be hot and hazy with a risk

Eastern Catalonia will be hot and hazy with a risk

of thunderstorms, and the old shower is also posof thunderstorms, and the old perthagn and eastern sible over other parts of northern and eastern Spain. However, Portugal and central and south-

spain, nowever, Fortuges and central and south-ern Spain will be hot and sunny. Highs 28-35C. Ptaty:

Southern regions of the country will have another very hot day with lots of sunshine, but further north it will be more unsettled with a risk of thundery showers, especially over the Alps and Dolomites isolated thunderstorms will break out over north-ern Greece but most of the country will have blue skies and hot sunshine. Welcome sea-breezes will develop on the beaches. Max temp 28-34C

Music Of Mal. 1.18 German Grand Prix. 2.10 FBMb Tas. For Two. 3.45 Cricket -First Test And Citympic Grandstand. 2.10 The Celling. 10.00 Dancing in The Street: A Pock And Roll History. 11.00 Tatin Over The Asylum. 11.50 The X Files. 12.55 Listen To The Future. 1.50 Cricket - First Test. 5.10 Leter With Joole Hotland. 3.50 Cices.

BEC Prime

© Intelient
8.00sm BBC World News, 6.30 Poised
Histories, 6.30 Best Of Anne And Neck,
8.60 Clympic Bresidast, 10.45
Grandsland, 5.45 Hot Chels, 6.30
Bellarny's New World, 6.00 BBC World
News, 6.30 Celebrity Mantispiece, 6.30
Too Of The Pops, 8.05 Clympics Live,
9.40 Murder Most Horrid, 16.10 Top Of
The Pops, 16.30 Clympics Live,
4.50 Developing World, 5.00 The Cornfishe
Steme

BBC World

© Eutainsi
G.Oosen World News, E.20 Clympic
Review, 7,00 World Headlines, 7,08
Everymen, 5,00 World Headlines, 7,08
Everymen, 5,00 World Headlines, 3,05
Portrait Of Courage: Aung San Satu Kwi.
9,00 World News, 9,30 Time Out.
7,00 World News, 10,30 World News,
10,25 Clympic Review, 11,30 World News,
10,25 Clympic Review, 11,30 World News,
12,30 Britain in View, 12,50 Earth
Report, 1-00 World Headlines, 1,05 Under
The Blue Pag 2,90 World News, 2,20
This Week, 2,00 World News, 2,30 Time
Out. Building Sights, 4,00 World News,
4,05 Correspondent, 5,00 World News,
5,30 Time Out. Austion, 8,00 World News,
5,30 Time Out. Austion, 8,00 World News,
6,30 This Week, 7,00 World News,
6,30 This Week, 7,00 World News,
1,30 Time Out. Tog Geer 10,00 World News,
1,30 Time Geer 10,00 World News,
1,30 Time Business Report.
2,00 World News, 2,35 India Business Report.
2,00 World News, 2,30 India Business Report.
4,00 World News, 5,20 Britain in View

92.4-94.6 MHz, 198 164z (1514)

S2.4-94.8 MHz. 198 tetz (1514)
6.00mm News Briefing. 6.10 Farming
Today, 6.50 Prayer for the Dey. 6.58
Westher 7.00 Today, 8.56 Westher. 8.00
News 8.05 Sport on 4 9.50 Brestammy
10.00 News. Duble Vision. 10.30 The
Lyman Test. 11.00 (LW) Test Netch
Special. 11.30 (FM) Europhile. 12.00 (FM)
Inside Money. 12.25 (FM) On Baby Street.
12.55 (FM) Westher. 1.00 News. 1.10 in
the Dock. 1.55 Shipping Forecast. 2.00
(LW) Test Natch Special. 2.00 (FM) Selecting the Grass Grow. 2.30 (FM) Selecting the Grass Grow. 2.30 (FM) Science
Now. 5.00 (FM) File on 4. 3-40 (FM) Science
Now. 5.00 (FM) File on 4. 3-40 (FM) Told
Talk from the Rock Pool. 8.50 Shipping
Forecast. 5.55 (FM) Westher. 3.55 (LW)
Test Matich Special. 2.00 (FM Science
Now. 5.00 (FM) Selecting No. 10 (FM)
Research Special. 2.00 (FM) Science
Now. 5.00 (FM) Selecting No. 10 (FM)
Test Matich Special. 2.00 (FM) Science
Now. 5.00 (FM) Selecting No. 10 (FM)
Research Special. 2.00 (FM) Science
Now. 5.00 (FM) Title of Test No. (FM)
Research Special. 2.00 (FM) Science
Now. 5.00 (FM) File on 4. 3-40 (FM) Told
Talk from the Rock Pool. 8.50 Shipping
Forecast. 1.20 On These
Days 8.50 Saturday Night Theatre: The
Return of Sherlock Holmas. 9.35 Classics
with Kay. 9.50 Ten to Ten. 9.59 Westher.
10.00 News. 10.15 P. Division - Code Four
Che 11.15 A Night with. Parick Moore.
11.45 Devil's Advocate. 12.00 News.
12.30 The Late Sory: Doller Day. 12.46
Shipping Forecast. 1.00 As World Service.
6.50 Inshore Forecast. 5.51 Bells on
Sunday 3.56 Shipping Forecast.

BBC World Service

BBC World Service

BBC World Service can be received in England on MW 548 kHz (485m) and in Western Europe on LW 198 kHz (155m)

7.00em Newsday, 7.30 Science in Action.
8.00 World News, 8.08 Olympic
Sportsworld, 6.18 The World Today, 8.20 Fourth Estate, 9.00 World News, 9.15
From the Westelles, 9.30 People & Politics, 10.00 World News, 10.10 Worlds of Fath, 10.45 A Jolly Good Show, 11.00 World News, 11.05 World Business Report, 11.15 Logal Right, Legal Wrongs, 11.30
The World of Computers 11.45 Sports Round-up 12.00 Newsdesk, 12.30 BBC Englash, 12.45 Letter From America, 1.00 Newsdesk, 1.30 Meridiser (Lws) 2.00
Newsdesk, 1.30 Meridiser (Lws) 2.00
Newsdesk, 1.30 Meridiser (Lws) 2.00
World News, 4.05 Sportsworld, 5.00 World News 5.05 Sportsworld, 5.00 World News 5.05 Sportsworld, 5.00 World News 6.15
Sportsworld 7.00 News Surmhary 7.01
Westerd 7.30 From the Westelles 7.45
Sports Roundup 8.00 Newsbesk, 8.30
Science in Action, 9.00 Newsbesk, 8.30

Television and radio — Saturday

WASTE 8.00 Kity Foyle, 8.00 Anne Of Green Gables, 9.48 Khartouri, 92.00 Junior, 9.00 Junior, 9.00 Walk Lies A Mari, 4.00 In Your Wildest Oreans, 8.00 The Hodsucker Proxy, 8.00 Junior, 19.00 Leon, 11.50 Securit Method, 1.30 Leon, 3.20 The Ball Of Little Jo.

Sky Mories Gold 9 Astra 12.00 The Big Country, 2.45 Carefree, 4.10 Lawrence Of Arabia, 7.45 Dunlerk, 12.00 Polargeist B. 11.35 Less Than Zero, 1.45 Youngblook, 3.06 The Eleno 4.40 Close.

Sky Sports ● Astra

© Asirs
7.30 World Wresting Federation - Raw.
8.30 Racing News. 9.00 Super League.
11.00 World Wide Rugby: Tri Nations
Series - Australia Va New Zeeland. 1.00
Sports Saturday. 5.30 Super League - Live.
8.00 International Criciest: England Va.
8.00 Super League. 2.00 Major League.
8.200 Super League. 2.00 Major League.
8.200 Super League. 5.15 World Wide
Rugby: Tri Nations Series - Austrafia Va.
New Zestend.

© Astra/Euristasi
8.00 Good Morning Allants. 7,00
Swimming 8.00 Abletics. 10,00 Live
Terruis 12,00 Live Formuls 1, 1,00
Clympic Foam Spirt. 2,00 Swimming 8.00
Live Rowing 8.16 Live Cycling, 7,30 Live
Boson, 8.00 Clympic Extra. 8.30 Afficilis.
9,15 Live Handball. 10,30 Weightiting.
11,15 Live Athletics. 12,00 Clympic
Special. 12,30 Live Afficies. 1,16 Live
Boxing, 3,00 Live Diving. 4,45 Diving
8,00 Good Morning Allants. 8,30 Africtics. Asix a 7.00 Undun, 12.00 World Wrestling Poderation Mens. 1.00 The Hit Mix. 2.00 Hisraties: The Legendary Journeys. 3.00 Hawkeys. 4.00 King Fu, The Logend Cardinuse. 8.00 Wind Fu, The Logend Circulates. 8.00 Wright Wrestling Federation Superstars. 7.00 Heroules: The Legendary Journeys. 8.00 Unsolved Medicales. 8.00 Cops. I. 9.30 Cops. II. 12.00 Stand And Dolker 10.30 Revelocing and And Dolker 10.30 Revelocing 11.00 Tates From The Cryst. 11.30 Forever Knight. 12.30 Drawn Ox. 1.00 Cornetly Rules. 1.30 Rachol Gunn, RN. 2.00 Hit Mix Long Play. Astra

UK Gold

P Astrs
7.00 Give Us A Clue. 7.30 Going For Gold, 7.55 The Sustverse Omnibus. 10.00 Bergercs. 11.00 Lytton's Diary. 12.00 Neighbours Omnibus. 2.28 EastEnders Omnibus. 5.06 Robar's Nest. 5.35 Get Sonte Int 8.10 It Air's Haif Hot, Murn. 8.45 Sonty. 7.20 Breed. 8.00 Colditz. 9.03 Terlot. 10.46 Bottom. 10.80 Fitting. 11.35 Victim Ct Rage. 1.25 Carrott Confidential. 2.05 Shopping At Night. 2.00 Glose.

Autra/Eurolean

● Autra/Euroleat

8.00 The McLaughlin Group, 6.30 Helio
Austria, Helio Vistria, 7.00 TTN World
News, 7.36 Europa, Journal, 8.00
Cyberschool, 10.00 Super Snop, 11.00
Executive Litestyles, 11.00 Whe Euroreas
12.00 Lishusia, 1.00 NBC Super Sports,
5.00 ITN World News, 5.20 Air Combst,
6.30 TTN Solina Soott Show, 7.30
Executive Litestyles, 8.00 Tatisfor Bloss,
8.30 TTN World News, 9.00 NBC Super
Sports, 10.00 The Tonight Show With Jay
Lano, 11.00 Late Night With Construction
O'Brion, 12.00 Tatisfor Bloss, 12.30 The
Tonight Show With Jay Leno, 1.30 The
Solina Boott Show, 2.30 Tatisfor Blues,
8.00 Report Live, 4.00 The Seines Scott,
Show, 5.00 Weelty Business, 8.30 NBC
News With Tom Brokew.

● Astra/Intoisat

Television and radio — Sunday

First Teat 12.55 Figure The Devil's Playground 2.50 Right Sald Fred 2.50 Olympic Grandstand, 5.65 Open Universi Regions Apart, 6.45 Sacial Cognition; Another Point Of View.

© Insiles?
8.00em BBC World Neves. 8.20 TV
Heroes. 8.30 Best Di Anne And Nick. 8.00
Olympics Breakfast. 10.80 Streets Of
London. 12.40 Grandstand. 8.40 Olympics
Live. 8.05 The Life And Times Of Lord
Mountbetten. 8.05 Antiques Roadshow.
8.05 BBC Neves. 6.20 Crown Prosecutor.
8.50 Sorgs Of Praise. 7.30 The Essential
Olympics. 8.30 Clympics. 4.30 Sodial
Science. 8.30 Brain And Behaviour.

MC World

© Euleisat
S.Ocem 88C World News. 6.25 Olympic
Review, 7.00 Newsdey, 7.30 This Week.
2.00 World Headines. 8.05
Correspondent. 8.00 World News. 8.30
Tree Gut Euleing Sights. 10.00 World News. 10.25 Olympic Review. 11.20
World News. 11.05 Everyman. 12.00
World News. 12.20 The Art Marsthon.
1.00 World Headines. 1.05 Portrait Ol
Courage. Aung San Suu Kwi. 2.00 World
Headines. 2.05 Globel Report. USA 3.00
World News. 3.30 Time Out. Top Gear.
4.00 World Headines. 4.05 Hortzon. 8.00
World News. 8.20 Earth Report. 5.30 Time
Out. Food And Drink. 6.00 World News.
8.20 Earths In View 7.00 World News.
8.20 Eritain in View 7.00 World News.
10.00 World Report. 10.30 Olympic
Revew. 11.00 World Report. 12.00 World
News. 12.10 The Money Programme
1.00 Newsroom. 4.00 World Headines.
4.05 The Money Programme
1.00 Newsroom.
4.05 The Money Programme
1.00 Newsday

Radio 4

92.49.6 MHz, 198 MHz (1514)
9.00em News Briefing 6.10 Something Understood 6.55 Weather 7.00 News 7.10 Sunday Papers. 7.15 On Your Ferm. 7.40 Sunday Papers. 7.15 On Your Ferm. 7.40 Sunday Papers. 9.15 New 9.10 Sunday Papers. 9.15 Lister from America. 9.40 Morning Service 10.15 The Archers. 11.18 (PM) Heditumwave. 11.15 (LW) Test Match Special. 11.45 (PM) The New Europeans. 12.45 (PM) Weather. 1.00 The World The Weekend. 1.35 Shaping Forecast. 2.00 (LW) Test Match Special. 19.50 (PM) Special. 2.50 (PM) Test Match Special. 2.50 (PM) Test Match Special. 2.50 (PM) Test Match Special. 2.50 (PM) The Clease: Serial. the Barchester Chronicles. 2.30 (PM) Pick of the Week. 4.15 (PM) Analysis. 5.00 (PM) Reves.

A-15 FMJ Analysis. 2-300 FMJ News;
Dodwell Goes Native. 5.30 (FMJ News;
Dodwell Goes Native. 5.30 (FMJ Poes;
Poetry Please) 4.50 Shipping Forcest.
6.56 (FMJ Weether. 5.55 (LW) Test Match
Special 6.00 (FMJ So. O'Glock News. 6.15
(FMJ Festback. 6.30 (FMJ) The Tablacioth
Trick. 7.00 Children's 88C Radio 4: Time
Hobs. 7.30 A Good Read. 8.00 (FMJ The
Natural History Programme 8.00 (LW)
Open University. 6.30 (FMJ West I. 7 9.00
(FM Growing Spaces. 9.30 (FMJ) Costing
the Earth. 9.58 Weether 10.00 News.
10.15 Medicine Naw. 10.45 Breekaway
11.15 Europe Now. 11.45 Seeds of Farth
12.00 News. 12.20 Belts on Sunday.
12.30 The Late Stary The Last Campaign
12.48 Shipping Forcess. 1.00 As World
Service. 6.50 Instore Forecast. 5.68
Shipping Forcest.

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Sky One

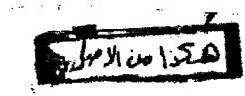
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Nine 4.00 World Wrestling Federation
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Trek: Deep Space Nine 8.00 Melrose
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UK Gold

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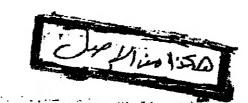


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'Some people keep trying to pretend that ball tampering doesn't go on - and it has gone on for as long as I can remember. You tell me someone who has kept to the speed limit all his life. We are all a bit naughty and knock on over 30 miles an hour when we shouldn't'

- Geoffrey Boycott in court yesterday



Judge raises finger to expansive Boycott

TITH two of the world's greatest all-rounders and one of England's and a posse of eminent cricket commentators milling around, there was perhaps, only one man who could have up-staged them. Enter Geoffrey Boycott into court 13 of the High Court yesterday, wearing a garish green tie and sleeve-less shirt and holding a

cricket shoe. Your honour, can I say I'm sorry I haven't got a jacket on but I was rushed

from the Test match at | Lord's where I was expecting to be commentating," he said to Mr Justice

After giving his full address in Yorkshire, in-cluding post code, he added: "That's in England."
George Carman, QC, representing Imran Khan, said: "It hasn't declared its state of independence?"He replied: "We like to think

we are a bit different." Boycott was giving evi-dence on behalf of the former Pakistani cricket captain who is being sued for libel by former England over an interview in India Today magazine which quoted him as saying they were racists, uneducated, and lacking in class.

Botham is also suing Im-ran over an article in the Sun which he claimed accused him of ball tamper-ing. Imran, who denies libel, claims he was misquoted and never called Botham a cheat.

Boycott was asked by Charles Gray, QC, representing Botham and Lamb, about the evidence of his former Yorkshire colleague, Brian Close, who had earlier said he would

The two are suing Imran | tion on whether Boycott | speed limit all his life. We over an interview in India | was an "honest man". Boy | are all a bit naughty and roday magazine which | cott said Close was "bitter | knock on over 30 miles an and angry". He said ball tampering,

like picking the seam, had gone on for as long as he could remember. He compared it to driving slightly above the speed limit.

"We've all done it" he said "We've all done it," he said.
"I've seen seam bowlers and spinners do it." He added: "There's a de-

bate because those that won't accept that ball tampering has gone on keep trying to pretend that it doesn't go on — and it's gone on for as long as I can remember. You tell me

hour when we shouldn't."

At the end of his cross-examination, Boycott pro-

amination, Boycott produced the cricket shoe, saying he wanted to explain other things that went on apart from ball tampering.

The judge said he had to play according to the rules of "this procedure", but Boycott held the shoe aloft and said: "thus of the said. and said: "One of the witnesses, Brian Close, said he and his teams played in ac-cordance with the laws and rules of the game, but . . ."

At this point Mr Gray
cried "foul play", adding:
"I owe a duty to Brian

The proceedings threat-ened to degenerate into farce as Mr Carman asked if Boycott agreed with Close's comment: "The game first, team second and players third." He said be did not understand the

The judge intervened: 'It appears to me that this wit-ness's evidence is in danger of getting out of hand and I reductions. think that having been examined, cross-examined and re-examined, he should now leave the witness box." Boycott, looking rather sheepish, made his way out of court and back to Lord's.

IMF backs **Budget free** of tax cuts

HE Treasury's bid to put the squeeze on spending ministers this autumn was given weighty backing yester-day by an International Mon-etary Fund report on the Brit-ish economy, which called for expenditure cuts and no Bud-

get giveaway.
With the clamour on the Conservative right mounting for income tax reductions in November, Chancellor Kenneth Clarke took the unprecedented step of publishing the results of IMF's 10-day inves-tigation into the UK con-ducted this month.

Mr Clarke — forced to deny a report in the Sun that he had already decided on a 2 pence cut in the basic rate to 22 pence, costing £3 billion — said he agreed with the IMF's recommendation that govern-ment borrowing needed to be reduced more rapidly. He said the public sector

borrowing requirement was not coming down as fast as he forecast and added: "We've

got to act in order to get that down".

Some of the political pres-sure on Mr Clarke to cut in-come tax in his pre-election budget is being blocked by the growing realisation that the financial markets will force him to raise interest rates if he appeases the Tory right.

The notion that the pick-up higher than the pick-

in growth may require higher base rates was noted by the IMF, although the bulk of the report concerned the need to underpin what it called "an enviable" economic perfor-mance with a renewed strack on the budget deficit.

According to the IMF, infrastructure projects have borne too much of the recent cut-backs, and current spending needs to be targeted for

"Given the limited scope for major progress in this area in the short term and the importance of strengthening the fiscal position, there appears to be no scope for tax cuts in the forthcoming Bud-

15 years offer the "genuine prospect of improvement in the UK's growth performance over the medium term", the report also urges Mr Clarke to act against tax exemptions. These, it says, have "turned out much more expensive than anticipated".

Mr Clarke is being cautious in the knowledge that any tax cuts in November that had to be followed by higher borrow-

ne costs would be politically counter-productive.

John Major is telling supporters that tax cuts will come only if they are "justi-fled". Privately, he is urging Mr Clark to protect health and education, as well as welfare spending on the poorest, so that the budget can be presented as "a social budget reflecting his own concerns.

Mr Clarke is negotiating with Cabinet colleagues in

the annual spending round and has made plain that the £263 billion control total for 1997-98, announced in the last cailing which he hopes to cut. Since the uncapped items in the Budget on top of that figure — debt interest (which has soured), demand-led

social security spending and accounting adjustments, off-set by privatisation proceeds — are causing headaches, the downward pressure will be strong. This week's row over defence spending was a sign of storms to come.

cent increase in public spend ing next year built into the current projections, only 2.5 per cent of which will be absorbed by inflation, lower than expected. Treasury offi-cials hope to claw back the remaining 2 per cent.
To add to their problems

there is a £6 billion gap in the 1996 revenue projections, half of it arising from lower than expected growth in the econo-my, the rest from worrying falls in VAT receipts, corporation and income tax, though officials hope they may bounce back.

Med cow cull hits growth,

WHISKEY

Missing mother found

Alex Selles

HE missing mother of the boy found abandoned in a Bourne mouth park was found yesterday more than 100 miles away

Julie Lane, whose disap-pearance attracted widespread media coverage, was found wandering near the railway station in a "confused

Police had been tipped off by a member of the public who saw someone fitting the 23-year-old mother's

description.
Miss Lane was taken to Eastbourne police station, where she was examined by a doctor. She was then sec tioned under the Mental Health Act and transferred to a hospital in St Albans, near her home in Hemel Hempstead, Hertfordshire.

Her four-year-old son, Steven, who bas been in the care of emergency foster parents since being found asleep in bushes near a Bournemouth community centre on Monday, was yes-terday taken to his aunt and

A statement from the famfly, issued by Hertfordshire police, said: "He is very bright



Julie Lane and her abandoned son, Steven, aged four

about seeing the sea and going in police cars. So far there have been no ill effects."

It was too early to say when mother and son would be reunited, said a spokesman for Hertfordshire social

Miss Lane, as she was said to be a caring mother who doted on her child. They believed she was suffering from emotional stress. Neighbours claimed she had recently dyed her hair or



and chatty and full of talk | ange and turned into a "dison end.

When Steven was found, police expressed concern for



turbed woman" who ignored her son's screams for hours The search switched to

Eastbourne when police learnt she had had connec-tions there many years ago. Patrolling police officers spotted her walking in the town centre. From her dress it appeared she could have been sleeping rough. A woman claiming to be

Steven's mother who made a hoax call to police during the inquiry has been traced and

British troops in Croatia 'face threat of male rape'

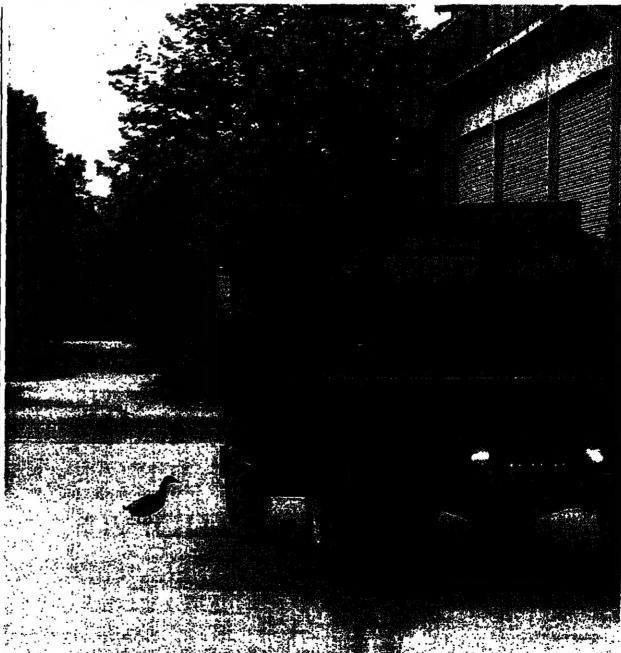
continued from page;1 cases in the past two months. He said his friend had been reped at gunpoint by a gang of Crostian men after a night on the town.

"It's miserable. I've never heard anything like it anywhere I've been with the army," the soldier said. Senior British military offi-

cers say male-on-male sexual essault played an important and unexplored part in the Balkan conflict, where it appears to have been used against prisoners as an ultimate means of humiliation.
The Medical Centre for

Human Rights in the Cro-atian capital, Zagreb, has counselled victims of what it describes as systematic sex-ual abuse of men during the Serb-Croat war in 1991. Some suffered partial castration or other genital injuries.

The Croatian psychiatrist who set up the centre, Mladen Loncar, said in an interview earlier this year: The sexual abuse of men is one of the most hidden war crimes ... While people know that women can be raped in war, the systematic abuse of men is almost a complete taboo."



WHAT LITTLE TRAFFIC there is in Lynchburg, Tennessee can be brought to a standstill by a Mallard hen.

This one came from over by our limestone cave spring, where Jack Daniel discovered water so right for whiskey making (it's iron-free), he built his distillery alongside. Of course, that meant sharing the property with a few ducks. But to have a source of water this treasured, we've always been glad to stop for friends who value it as much as we do.

JACK DANIEL'S TENNESSEE WHISKEY

'Meanest mothers in North' shoot rival biker in prison cell

Jon Henley in Heisinki

FIE latest victim of a spi-ralling turf war between Nordic biker gangs was recovering in a Danish hospital yesterday after unknown assailants broke into his prison cell, fired 25 shots at him and then lobbed in a hand grenade as they left.

hand grenade as they left.

"It's a miracle he survived," said Christian Pedersen, a police officer from Jyderup, the scane of the attack 40 miles west of Copenhagen.

"This whole thing is beginning to get out of control."

In the past 10 days, four shortings, a murder and an "This whole thing is neght of the Norwegian cap ning to get out of control."

In the past 10 days, four shootings, a murder and an attempted bombing in Den-

have marked a sudden escalation in the two-year feud be-tween Hell's Angels and Bandidos clans, which has left six men dead and at least 20 wounded. With mottoes such as "We

are the people our parents warned us against" and "God forgives, Bandidos don't', bearded and leather-clad gang members have used stolen rocket launchers, automatic weapons and car bombs in a battle over bikers' bonour and, experts say, control of lucrative Scandinavian drugs

mark, Norway and Sweden | dido. "I won't say there isn't money involved, but basically it's about showing we're the meanest mothers in the north. The Angels are learn-

ing it the hard way."
Police are baffled about what to do next. "We have a problem," a Copenhagen CID spokesman said. "Inflitrating these gangs is impossible. If you ban them they just rename themselves. And a lot of people think, if these guys want to blast each other to bits, why not let them? The trouble is, some or later someone innocent will get

tacked in the early bours of Thursday. He was serving a 16-year sentence for a murder committed in 1985 during the last great Nordic biker war, which killed 13 people. On Tuesday night, a Swedish Bandido was shot in the leg near a Hell's Angels club-

house in southern Sweden. The previous Monday, a Danish Bandido was fatally shot in the head in Drammen, south of Oslo, and four days later police reported another biker shooting in the centre of the Norwegian capital. Last Sunday, 5 kilos of explo-sives were hurled at the Danish

"I've been married 22 years, have no children and I have very little maternal instinct!" She laughs uproariously as she announces these facts. "We

decided we had other things to do." Joanna Coles interviews Jacqui Lait

Outlook page 17

Royal photo condom ad withdrawn

A POSTER campaign by the British Safety Council using a wedding photo of the Prince and Princess of Wales to promote safe sex has been withdrawn following the death of the council's director-general. The board of governors said yesterday it was not prepared to support the poster, and apologised to the

The campaign featured the picture of the royal couple kissing on the balcony of Buckingham Palace, with the caption: "Appearances can be deceptive. Use a Johnny Condom."

It was intended to promote National Condom Week and was the brainchild of the council's founder and director-general.

James Tye. BSC chairman Douglas Latto said: "Sadly James Tye passed away on Sunday. This was his last campaign. In his absence the board of governors feels it really cannot support such a controversial poster. We obviously overstepped the mark this time

and will not be sending out any more posters."

Palace officials complained to the Advertising Standards Council about the poster, which first appeared last week, but just days ago the BSC was refusing to apologise.

Mr Tye died on Sunday aged 74. He leaves his wife Rosalle and a son and daughter. Obituary, page 28

Trawler deaths investigation

AN investigation will begin this weekend to discover why three trawlermen died in the hold of their ship. Operators of the Atlantic Princess, a Hull-registered vessel, want to know why the men collapsed and died as they cleaned out part of the fish handling area.

The men were named yesterday as Alan Fairburn, aged 30, married with two children, from Hull, and Dutchmen Jaap Bruin. 34, and Arie van der Plas, 28. The ship was fishing off the coast of Mauritania, West Africa, when tragedy struck.

Five crewmen rushed to help but found they could hardly

breathe in the stinking, confined area. They had to be sent ashore for treatment when they collapsed after dragging the bodies out of

Stewart Harper of the vessel's British agent, Valiant Trawlers Ltd, said: "We don't know what happened, maybe there just

wasn't any oxygen down there. It was very hot."

The stricken crewmen have recovered in hospital in the port of Nouadhibou, Mauritania. They and their colleagues are being flown home while accident investigators inspect the ship, which is on her way to Las Palmas in the Canary Islands for the inquiry.

Duchess seeks damages

THE Duchess of York was at the centre yesterday of a High Court action seeking damages and a court order to prevent publication of details of her charge card use. In a writ issued with American Express against News Group (UK) Ltd, she is seeking an order banning publication of details of her American Express account. The writ, issued on Wednesday at the High Court in London, seeks injunctions restraining News Group from disclosing confidential information about her American Express account and the payment of money by her to American Express.

In particular, the writ seeks an order banning News Group from disclosing any information taken from her June or July statements and any cheques drawn in payment of the outstanding balance. She and American Express are also asking for damages for breach of confidence and further orders that News Group hand over any statements, cheques and other relevant documents

Man charged over explosives

A MAN is to appear before magistrates in Bristol this morning on three explosives charges. Barry Horne, aged 44, of no fixed address, was charged last night with three offences following the arrest of a man on Thursday evening by detectives in Broadmead shopping centre, in the centre of Bristol.

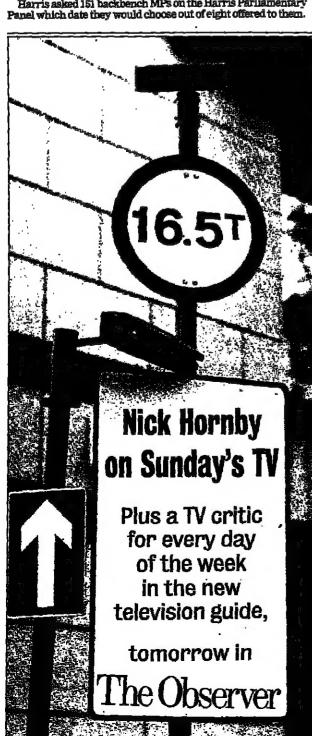
Horne faces two charges of acting with intent to cause explosions. The offences relate to the BhS store and a Cancer research charity shop. A third charge alleges he had possession or control of explosive substances. All the charges allege explosives "of a nature likely to endanger life or cause serious damage

Detectives from the South East Regional Crime Squad arrested the man in Halfords store in Broadmead. They later revealed that two other explosive devices were found in BhS and the charity

shop.
The arrest followed a long surveillance operation investigating the activities of an animal rights organisation.

MPs predict May 1 election

THE most favoured date for the next general election is May 1, 1997, according to MPs. A Harris poll conducted for the Parliamentary House Magazine shows 49 per cent of MPs believe that is the date the Prime Minister will choose. The next most popular date is May 8, selected by 16 per cent of MPs. Harris asked 151 backbench MPs on the Harris Parliamentary





John Salmon, who spent up to 60 hours a week at Hammersmith public library reading law reports and legal texts as his case neared trial

· 政府

Civil law 'revolution' plan

BLUEPRINT for a revolution in the English civil justice system to curb delays, cut costs and make it easier for indi-viduals to enforce their rights was unveiled yesterday by Lord Woolf, Master of the

The far-reaching package of reforms, which follows a two-year investigation by the for-mer law lord, is the most radical shake-up ever of civil justice in England and Wales and will require a dramatic change in the culture of litigation - taking control of the and giving it to judges.

The proposals are geared to tackling costs, which Lord Woolf called "the most serious problem besetting our lit-igation system". Problems arising from excessive costs contaminate the whole civil justice system," he said. Fear of costs deterred people from litigating, compelled others to settle against their wishes, enabled the powerful to take had an adverse effect on the

Woolf's "new landscape for civil justice" include handson case management by udges, incentives to settle cases early, penalties for dragging them out, and a

Woolf report's key points

 A simpler and more accessible system of civil justice.

Parties will have to co-operate earlier on to facilitate out of court settlement. Different ways of dealing with cases depending on value, complexity and importance. More certainty about cases' length and cost.

• A fast track for cases up to

£10,000, with a cap on lawyers costs, a standard fee for advocacy at trial, written expert evidence and a maximum of one-day for trial.

Greater equality between

> amount, judges will manage cases closely and costs and timetables will be monitored by the court.
>
> Lord Mackay, the Lord Chancellor, gave an enthusi-astic welcome to the propos ment's intention

enanied the powerful to take and advantage of the weaker and had an adverse effect on the scope of legal aid.

Key elements of Lord Woolf's "new landscape for civil justice" include hands-

parties so wealthy ones can-not take unfair advantage of weaker ones.

Cases diverted from court

if possible and settled through mediation or arbitration. Strict timetables and shorter trials.

 Costs incentives and sanctions to foster early settlement. In-court advice and assistance services for litigants.

Plaintiffs to be able to offer to settle cases, with defendants paying extra interest if they reject the offer and the judge awards same or more.

costs for claims under £10,000. | Court Service Agency to im- | system let down everybody. complex cases under that

als, signalling the Governimplement them speedily. A bill giving power to make new simplified "plain English"

Court's Chancery division), has been given the extra role of head of civil justice to mas-"fast track" simplified proce-dure with caps on lawyers's has already been set up in the of the litigant". The present

troduce computerised systems to monitor cases, but Lord Mackay hopes to cover most of the costs by savings from settling cases earlier. The reforms are intended to

dovetail with plans to overhaul the legal aid scheme, providing aid through block contracts granted to law firms based advice services for liti-gants, recommended by Lord Woolf, could form part of a block contract.

Launching his 369-page report, Access to Justice, Lord Woolf said: "We have to change from a situation where litigation is being conducted for the benefit of lawyers, to ... it being conducted for the benefit the claim's size.

Lord Woolf . . . his shake-up is geared to tackling costs

high priority."

Consumer and legal groups, including the Law Society and Bar Council, welcome the proposals, but warned the reforms would need to be properly piloted and resourced. However, the Association of

Personal Injury Lawyers said the proposals would deny in-jured people access to justice and increase inequality be-tween them and defendants' insurance companies.
Research for Lord Woolf showed that for high court

claims up to £12,500, one 's's legal costs exceeded the ne of the claim in 40 pert of cases. Under his pro-posals, costs will be con-trolled and proportionate to

Seven-year battle after buying faulty music system 'totally disrupted' composer's career

OHN Salmon fought at tive Bank, still sued him to lone seven-year battle enforce the credit agreeagainst a finance company, its solicitor and barrister — and won. But the case cost him years of his life and 100 plus 50 per cent "up-"totally disrupted" his lift" to act for him, so he career. So all-consuming decided to represent himcareer. So all-consuming did it become that the court awarded him £12,000 for the cost of his time in act-

lawyer, writes Clare Dyer. His case backs up Lord Woolf's diagnosis of the ills Court Service Agency to implement the changes.

Extra resources will be needed to train judges and in Government will give this law woolfs reforms case. But Mr Salmon could been in place, the case would probably have been settled long before tital. In the unlikely event that it had gone to trial, it would

have been wound up years

ing as his own unqualified

earlier.
Mr Salmon, a freelance
music producer and composer then living in west
London, was sned in 1987 over a credit agreement he had taken out to finance an £1.850 music system. The equipment turned out to be faulty and the shop never supplied him with the correct manuals. After numerous requests, he lost patience and returned the

But First Cooperative Fi-nance, part of the Coopera-

ment. Mr Salmon, now aged 39, discovered he would have to pay a solicitor £40-

self. He filed a defence to the claim and counter-claimed for earnings lost through having been sold a faulty system. The case dragged on for six years, with hearing

not drop it because he would have been liable to pay the costs run up by the company's solicitor and barrister. As the case peared trial. Mr Salmon was spending up to 60 hours a week at

Hammersmith public li-brary, west London, reading law reports and legal texts. He estimates that the time spent on the case lost him £20,000 in earnings.

In 1993, six years after the case started, he was awarded £12,000 for the earnings the faulty music system cost him. It took another year and another maze of complex proce-dures before he won his £12,000 costs.

A campaign is launched to win a change in the law as destruction deadline looms

Couple try to adopt an embryo

Madeleine Bunting Religious Affairs Editor

CORNISH couple, out-raged by the "reck-lessness" and "wastof in-vitro fertilisation are campaigning to adopt one of the 4,000 frozen embryos before they are destroyed by next Wednesday's deadline.
Stephen and Joanna

Thomas, from Redruth, Cornwall, are pressing for reform to the law which insists that embryos can only be "adopted" with the consent of their genetic parents. Hospitals must destroy all embryos which have been stored for more than five years unless they have the consent of its denomination. genetic parents to extend the storage under regulations enforced by the Human Fertilisation and Embryology

Hospitals have failed to make contact with the parents of hundreds of embryos which must therefore be taken out of freeze storage

and destroyed.
"I would offer my womb as a safe place, to give them a life. These embryos are live-

ward. These embryos are so valuable," said Mrs Thomas. Mr and Mrs Thomas had a daughter before developing fertility problems: they rejected in-vitro fertilisation (IVF) on moral grounds. They then adopted a son with

special needs. "We don't see this as golden opportunity for us to have another baby. This is the first time that this nation has en masse destroyed thousands of embryos. A moral decision is being made by this government and we are preparing to finish thousands of individual people's lives. said Mr Thomas, who de-scribes himself and his wife as Christians of no

Life, the Catholic pressure group, is to launch an appeal this weekend for couples to

"adopt" an embryo. They are asking the Government for a six-month moratorium and a change in the law so that abandoned embryos can be adopted without the explict consent of the

parents. "Five couples including the Thomases have already offered to adopt. For all of them, sent over your hody, your own genes, and only use do from this area and we are no, this week described as a their primary motive is to organs and your genetic man nated embryos as a last receiving more requests from pre-natal massacre.



Stephen and Joanna Thomas, with children Hannah and Simon, protest against the destruction PHOTOGRAPH: DAIG BRENCHLEY

sor Jack Scarisbrick, president of Life.

The Human Fertilisation and Embryology Authority (HFEA) said donating frozen embryos to volunteering couples without the consent of the genetic parents is illegal. "As in all medical treatment in Western Europe, con-

save human beings from terial is fundamental." said a resort. If an infertile couple, being destroyed," said Professor Jack Scarisbrick, president Woodside.

Dr Peter Brinsden of the Bourn Hall clinic, Cambridge, which ploneered IVF, said it would be "totally unethical" to allow embryos to be adopted without the consent

of the parents. Most couples going for IVF prefer to use some of their

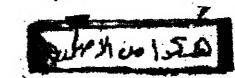
bryo, the matter would be a clinical decision, added Ms Woodside.

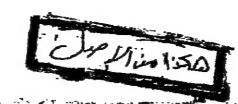
women have volunteered to allied to British Life.

adopt embryos, according to Catholic anti-abortion groups "We have a list of 100 women

women all over Italy who want to adopt an embryo," said Mario Clampi, chairman of the Centre for Help to Life in the central Italian town of Massa Carrara In Italy, more than 100

Dr Ciampi has urged the Italian government to put pressure on Britain to stop what he describes as a the massacre. The Vatican newspaper, L'Osservatore Roma-





File closed on Thames tragedy

Alex Belies

HE Crown Prosecu-tion Service yester-day faced renewed criticism "bungling" the investigation into the Marchioness disaster

after it announced it had after it announced it had closed the file on the tragedy.
Senior CPS lawyers decided there was insufficient evidence to institute any further criminal proceedings in connection with the incident seven years ago, despite a jury verdict last year that the victims were killed

unlawfully.

The families of the victims, who have campaigned for prosecutions to be brought against the captain and owners of the Bowhelle, the barge that collided with the pleasure boat, were angry and disappointed at the decision.

Margaret Lockwood Croft, whose son Sean died, said:
"The CPS seemsto be not about justice, but about damage limitation."

A CPS statement said it had conducted a review of all the gency services cannot arrive evidence presented to last on time. Next the DoT ignores year's inquest and considered written advice from senior Treasury counsel and an in-

dependent marine expert.
The way the Government and the CPS dealt with the aftermath of the disaster has long been the subject of controversy. Unlike the Zeebrugge ferry capsize, the Clapham junction rail crash and the King's Cross fire, a sin for a year and a half, and the king's cross fire, a sin for a year and a half, and the king's cross fire, a sin for a year and a half, and the king's cross fire, a sin for a year and a half, and the king's cross fire, a sin for a year and a half, and the king's cross fire, a sin for a year and a half, and the king's cross fire, a single control of the disaster has intermed and the subject of control of the disaster has intermed and the subject of control of the disaster has intermed and the subject of control of the subject of the subject

belle, Douglas Henderson, "Until there has been a pub-was prosecuted twice for neg-ligence, but was acquitted remain unresolved."

after two juries faled to reach a verdict. Last year's inquest was only granted after lobby-ing by the Marchioness Action Group. Louise Christian, a solicitor

acting for the victims' families, said: "This decision is immensely disappointing to the families, but is no sur-

unprofessional way".
He said: "First the emercalls for a public inquiry Now the CPS is dropping the

Marchioness aftermath

August 20, 1989: Marchio- trial. Jury fails to agree ness sinks after collision with Bowbelle; 51 people die. August 22-26 First inquests opened and adjourned. April 23 1990: Inquest

April 26: DPP announces charges of negligence against Bowbelle captain Douglas Henderson. Inquest adjourned inquest. Jury returns verdict so as not to prejudice trial.

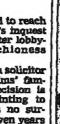
April 4-14 1991: Henderson July 28 1996: CPS closes file

Manned Subscription Shan

ne looms

acquitted.

victims win right to reopen inquest before new coroner. March 13-April 7 1995: New



inise after nearly seven years of bungling by the CPS.

"The families did not learn all the facts about what happened until the inquest last year. The CPS, however, had access to all the evidence at the outset and the verdict of the inquest jury means that a successful prosecution for manslaughter could have

been brought."

She called for public inquiries into all disasters to be a statutory right.

Simon Hughes MP, whose Southwark and Bermondsey constituency includes the part of the Thames where the accident took place, said the authorities had dealt with the whole affair in a "thoroughly

case despite the fact the second inquest returned an unlawful killing verdict."

The shadow transport minhave now rejected the unani-mous verdict of the jury of

got into difficulties while swimming the Channel was last night said by coastguards who

verdict. July 17-31 1991: Retriel. Jury fails to reach verdict again. Henderson formally

June 11 1994: Relatives of

the scene to provide medical assistance, and Kelly was taken to hospital in Ashford. Kent, where a spokeswoman said she was comfortable.

brought her to safety to be very lucky to be alive. Kelly Dixon, aged 16, an Australian, had been attempt-Tony Hawkins of the Dover lifeboat said Kelly had been ing a double crossing and was on her way back to England in the water for about 15 hours and was suffering from hypothermia. "She was semi-conscious when we got to her, when she collapsed several miles from Dover. Her father Gary, aged 42, who was in a boat with his but then slipped into unconsciousness on the way to Dover. She was nearly gone when we got to her. She is a wife, Gaylene, accompanying Kelly, jumped in and pulled

her abourd. He said: "She set off at very lucky girl."
The pilot of the back-up boat, Mike Oram, denied she 5.45am and had a very rough crossing with bad seasick-had been suffering from hyponess. On the way back she thermia. "It was more a case was feeling sick and dizzy and of energy starvation. Anyone swimming."

three or four strokes after feeding she went all still in the water so I jumped in and dragged her back to the boat."

The Dover lifeboat went to Kelly had been eating world's busic

honey sandwiches during the crossing, but had kept turning down the high carbohydrate food usually taken by long distance swimmers. Two years ago she became

the youngest Australian to swim the Channel. Her family are members of a life-saving club in Australia, and thought she would not be deterred by the traumatic

experience.
"Knowing her I would think she would want to try to swim it both ways again," said Mr Dixon. "I wouldn't

splashing out in world's busiest shipping lanes

Girl, 16, 'lucky to survive' dual Channel bid

'S WIMMING the Channel is like a rabbit trying to cross the M25 during the rush hour," said Mike Oram of the Channel Swimming Associ-ation, writes Lucy Manning. The swimmers not only

have to contend with the

cold water, exhaustion and jelly-fish, but also one of the world's busiest ship-ping lanes. Captain Mat-thew Webb made the first crossing in 1875. The obstacles that confront more than 50 swimmers who try it each year now include 1,000-ton tankers which take 30 miles to stop. A spokesman for the Royal Lifesaving Society said: "There is no chance of the ships stopping for you."

Mr Oram says it is the swimmers' duty to keep clear of other traffic. "Most

vessels are very good and tend to go round us." Coastguards have to track swimmers. "We warn shipping every hour that they are in the area," said a spokesman for the Dover coastguard, who thinks the swimmers are a safety haz-ard. "There is an awful lot of fast shipping out there. Not only are they putting

themselves at risk, but



A swimmer preparing for the Channel crossing .

people at risk. If ships have history - it irritated swimto change course, they risk collision or running into a sandbank. I would like them to stop swimming here; there are a number of other stretches of water they could use."

But Mr Oram asked: "Why should commerical traffic have more right to the Channel than a small organisation like ours, which has been here for 125

years?" Swimmers, authorised by

undertake a preliminary swim of six hours in cold water, and have an inde-pendent escort boatwhich costs over £1,000.

"Swimmers train for about a year," says Mr Oram "And we normally have about 55 swimmers every year from around the world, of which only 50 per cent complete crossing."

Mr Oram was piloting the boat accompanying Kelly Dixon on Thursday when she collapsed, and was out yesterday with Alsion Streeter, dubbed Queen of the Channel, as she undertook her 33rd crossing.

However, even he does not understand what posesses people to attempt repeat crossings: "I guess that because it is there. It's the premier swim in the world."

The image of swimmers covered in grease to con-serve heat is now part of mers when it solidified in the cold. But hypothermia still remains the biggest threat, as Kelly Dixon discovered. Since Captain Webb took to the water there have been more than 6,000 crossing attempts, but less than 500 have been

These included 11-yearold Thomas Gregory who set the record for the youngest swimmer in 1988, and American Jon Erikson who the Channel Swimming completed the first triple Association, must pass a crossing in justingent medical test, hours in 1981. crossing in just over 38

encressin).

Sayings customers

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GROSS GROSS MET MET GROSS GROSS GROSS MET MET CHANGES TO RATES

Halifax Building Society announces new rates for certain savings customers from 1st August 1996.

CLOSED ISSUES. If your account is a closed issue (one which is no longer available to new customers) you may close it without losing any interest if you transfer the money into any Halifax account. This does not apply to TESSA Gold and Halifax TESSA.

"The rates shown apply to both the deposit and share account versions of these products.

POINTS TO NOTE, interest will be paid net after the lower rate of income tax (currently 20%) has been deducted unless you have completed a registration form and made a declaration to comply with Inland Revenue regulations. The net rates shown, which are only examples and have been rounded, assume the lower rate of income tax has been taken off. All interest rates quoted may change, #Special rates of interest on certain accounts paid to savings customers who appear in our records as being under 21: If your account balance is less than £50 you will not receive any loterest unless you appear in our records as being under 21. Compounded annual rates (C.A.R.) apply when full interest remains in your account. The non-resident rates of interest are payable to individuals who are not ordinarily resident in the UK and who complete an appropriate declaration form. Bonus Gold, Solid Gold and Liquid Gold non-personal accounts (such as accounts held by clubs, charities and trusts) are no longer available

Pull account conditions and details of when interest is paid, and how to qualify for the TESSA Gold, Halifax YESSA, Halifox TESSA 2 and Borns Gold bonuses, are

27th July 1996

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Devout Rastas flock to a special birthday party

Alice Martin joins an annual pilgrimage to Shashemane in southern Ethiopia in memory of an African emperor .

HE national colours flutter above a domed tin roof in Shashemane as striking figures with heavy heads of dreadlocked hair converge on this corner of southern Ethiopia, a Mecca for the faithful.

The colours — red, yellow and green — are also those of the Rastafarian movement, whose members have ment, whise mentuers have been flocking to Shashe-mane from all over the world for this week's consecelebrations to mark the 105th birthday of the former emperor, Haile Selassie.

Stepping off the bus before the town's main cross-roads, Rastafarians make their way past Ethiopian villagers and children shouting a familiar refrain:

"Money, money."

The group passes down an earth road, their headscarves fluttering in the breeze, towards the head-quarters of the "Ethiopian World Federation". The excitement is palpable.

The high point in the Rastafarian calendar is the birthday of Haile Selassie,

peror's title before his coro-nation in 1980. He gave the African setting. movement land where Ras King strides across people of African descent — in particular West Indians



Ras Omari I and his wife Sister Sauda, from the United States, are visiting Africa for the first time. "We have come for the

annual convention, but the father's birthday is a holy day and we are in recess," says Sister Sauda.

The image of Haile Selassie woven into a huge car-pet and suspended from the federation building flaps lazily against the wall. The Rastafarian colours

hang alongside. They can be picked out again and again in the edging on women's clothing, in the women's troumer, in the stripes on small boys' suits, in the ribbons dangling from crosses and images of the "father" worn around numerous necks.

numerous necks.

Figures in priestly clothes, or quasi-military uniforms, are chatting or smoking. Ethiopian villagers come and go, and children play football.

It is mid-afternoon, and the celebrations are in their early stages on the site of the unfinished tabernacle.

It is built in concentric

It is built in concentric circles from breeze blocks according to the ground plan of Ethiopian churches, and with the same princi-

where to place a jug of flowers complete with a fresh sprig of marijuana.

Tents and shelters are who died 21 years ago and bas been deified by the movement.

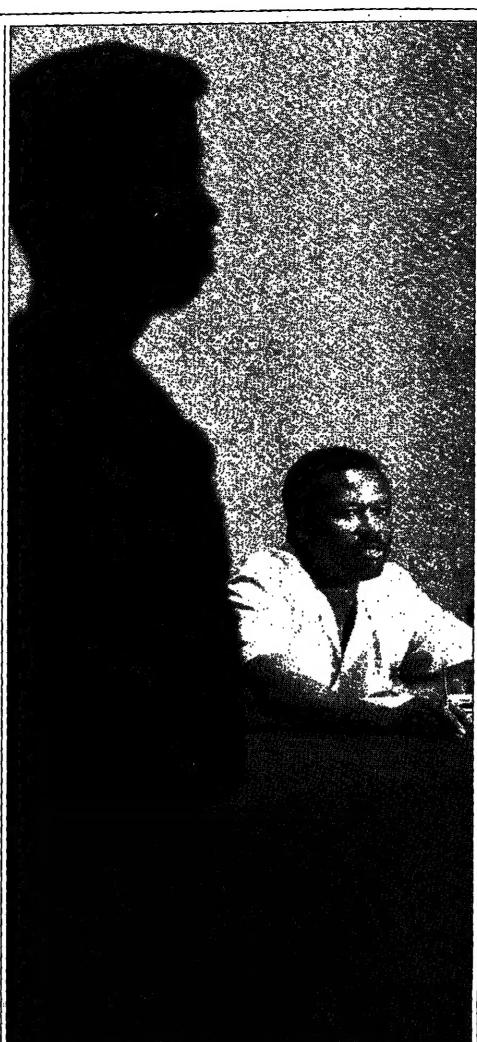
The Rastafarians' name comes from ras, meaning prince, and tagari, the employees the tents and a frilly pram

the site carrying a pair of drums. "We have a lot to be could be "repatriated" to proud of here and we have not been treated fairly by journalists," be says. "Many people come here to see what we have done, but we don't like it when they come with their minds made up."

There are conflicting opinions about whether the Rastafarian movement needs publicity. Shango Becko, from Britain, thinks it does and has been sending out press releases.
"You've made it inside,

he says. "That's half the bettle. Stick around and you'll learn a lot."

But others are more sus-picious. Res Moura, who has finished decorating the altar, is emphatic. "Call it a day." he says.



Out of the shadows . . . A soldier stands guard as Burundi's new leader, President Pierra Buyoya, addresses the press yesterday

Buyoya to step up war against Hutus

Chris McGreel in Bujumbure

Buyoya, promised yesterday to inten-sify the bloody civil war against Hutu rebels while trying to convince the international community that he is a solid democrat committed to

"The first priority is to all Burimdians. To do so we will take measures to fight against the genocide which is being perpetrated every day."

"We will wage an all-out war against those who have been killing Burundians. We're going to provide the army with sufficient resources to fight the enemy, wherever he comes from."
In a television address and

at a press conference, President Buyoya sought to head off international criticism by claiming that he seized power on Thursday to prevent a putsch by Tutsi extremists who would have plunged the country into worse conflict. And he stressed his demo-cratic credentials. A Turst who seized power once he-fore, in 1987, he organised the country's first free vote six years later. It led to the elec-tion of Melchior Ndadaye, Bu-rundi's first Hutu president, who was assassinated by the army within months, spark-

ing the civil war.

"We hear coups are no longer acceptable to change situations. I fully understand

everyone knows, I am among those who fought for democracy in Burundi," said President Buyoya.

"But I'm not one of those who thinks that for the sake of democracy we can let people die. We need to be pragnatic in order to save people."
The international commu-

nity yesterday appeared no closer to deciding what to do about the coup. The Organisation of African Unity's secretary-general, Salim Ahmed Salim, threatened to use force, but did not say where

the troops would come from.

The United States said it still recognised the deposed Hutu president, Sylvestre Nti-bantunganya, who sought shelter at the American ambassador's residence. But the US appay met President US envoy met President Buyoya for the second time in two days yesterday. He de-

clined to discuss the nature of their talks. President Buyoya's statements offered little prospect of an early end to the war which has claimed an estimated 150,000 lives, most of

He is sticking firmly to the line laid down over recent iticians that Hutu rebels are intent on the genocide of the Totsi population and that there can be no negotiations until they lay down their weapons.
"We will have a frank and

open discussion with anybody who renounces geno-cide, war and puts down their

this principal because, as | with those who stop fighting if they give up their ideology of genocide," he said.

But those who refuse to give up the fight will be grushed be added

crushed, he added. Hutu rebels, who accuse the army of pursuing genocide against of the Hutu population, have said they will call a halt to the fighting only if the military withdraws and rein-

states majority rule. The real test of President Buyoya's intent will be his handling of the reform of the military, civil service and other Tutsi-dominated institutions.

If he fails to address the inequalities of power and oppor-tunity, there will be little disaffected Hutus to have faith in his military rule, especially when it was the army's assas-sination of Mr Ndadaye that brought down the first demo-

cratic government. While President Buyoya tative of all interests, he made no mention of specific poli-cies. Nor did he say how long he intends to remain in office. The president's statements failed to convince Hutu members of the deposed government such as the ex-foreign minister, Venerand Bakevyu-musaya, who is under Ger-man diplomatic protection.

and frustrating, and you never know where it will lead. Mr Buyoya is a man who was denied power by democracy but has taken it back by force. He can only rule as a

Zimbabwe 'miracle cure' fails to save the poor

Kevin Watkins reports on the economic Esap's macroeconomic targets have been missed. Inflareform plan that has eroded gains in health | and education since independence

gramme that was supposed to transform Zimbabwe see the miracle unfold in Ep worth, a dusty settlement sight miles from the capital

"They hanced Structural Adjustment Programme (Esap) on the radio, promising us a bright future if we suffer some pain now, but I can see no future," said Mrs Chido as she washed clothes outside the one-room wooden shack shared with her husband, their three daughters and the son of a sister who died recently from HIV-related

Until last year, her husband earned about Z\$70 (£4.58) a month, working in a textile factory. Then the factory closed. Now the family sur vives on less than Z\$1 a day, which she earns from laundry work in Harare. Meal time is a helping of maize-based por-

ridge or sadza, and a watery cabbage sauce. "More than 70 per cent of Martin lost control and the the children here are mal-car overturned several times nourished," a health worker

> Epworth is a microcosm of a wider tragedy unfolding across 21mbabwe. The pov erty of more than a quarter of the population is deepening, inequality is widening and unemployment has risen to more than 50 per cent. Those in work have seen their bene fits and security downgraded, along with their wages. Their real incomes have fallen by a third since 1990.

The pursuit of Internaional Monetary Fund budget targets under Esap has eroded the gains in health and education since independence. Health spending per

TIVE years into an eco-capita has fallen by a third nomic reform pro-since 1990, bringing one of gramme that was sup-sub-Saharan Africa's most developed health systems to the

Part of the bleak picture an be attributed to Alds. which affects 1 million people - a third of the sexually active population. According to the World Bank, treating Alds-related sickness will

Robert Mugabe: Promised a more humane approach

spending in the next decade. yet health centre budgets are n terminal decline. In education, real spending

per primary school student has fallen by more than 30 per cent, leaving schools to rely on levies and fees. Yet the IMF believes Esap

entative, Jurgen Reitmar.

has been a qualified success.
"The challenge now is to consolidate the gains of the past five years and to accelerate the reform process," said the fund's Southern Africa repre

tion is more than double the 10 per cent target fixed in 1990, real incomes have fallen, the budget deficit has increased, exports have stagnated and manufacturing output and investment have de-clined. In a best-case scenario, it will require into Africa's answer to the brink of collapse. A recent annual growth rates of more Asian "'tiger" economies, report from Harare city counting to cil showed that infant mortal erage incomes to their pre-

The World Bank and the IMF blame Esap's performance on two severe droughts. But high intere rates, the exposure of fragile industries to competition from imports and the collapse of the domestic market have also contributed. So has the decline of public investment.

But in the eyes of its sup porters Esap's failure is temporary rather than structural "Everybody must face up to the transitional costs of adjustment if we are to progress," the deputy finance minister. Misheck Chinemas, recently told parliament.

President Robert Mugabe is aware of the unpopularity of Esap — an acronym popularly reinterpreted as "eat sadza and perish". During his election campaign earlier this year he denounced the IMF and the World Bank and promised a more humane reform programme. Today his offi-cials are completing negotiations on a new five-year Esap.

The new programme will require the government to cut its budget deficit of 13 per cent to 6 per cent within the next three years.

In theory, the budget sus-tainability could be achieved by restoring taxes on higher income groups and reducing subsidies to loss-making parastatals. In practice, powerful vested interests make this a non-starter. The upshot is that the brunt of the next phase of structural adjustment will be borne yet again by the poor.

Kevin Watkins is a senior pol-Despite this, virtually all of ity adviser for Oxfam.

Travellers

Cheques

Sri Lankan troops close in on rebel-held town after bombings in Colombo

SRI LANKAN troops launched a new offensive yesterday, sending interna-tional aid workers and hundreds of civilians fleeing as they quickly closed in on a northern rebel-held town, dipomats and aid workers said.

News in brief

Soldiers, backed by ar-mour, artillery and air cover, thrust to within six miles of the government says has cost the town, Kilimochchi, in a fresh offensive that followed responsibility for the latest in some of the worst fighting in a series of bombings to hit the Sri Lanka's long and bloody | Sri Lankan capital

days in the country's far east

to block the Trans-Siberian

yesterday.

railway, a union leader said

over unpaid wages, are threatening to throw them-selves down mine shafts and most of the region's mines, a

tion Tigers of Tamil Eelam killed 78 people and wounded 450 aboard a commuter train at a suburban station in

The Tamil Tigers, fighting for an independent homeland in the north and east in a war more than 50,000 lives, denied

But police have focused

About 9,000 have joined the

coal company spokesman

"Striking miners in the

It began two days after their search for the culprits bombs blamed on the Libera- on Tamils. Police said they were holding some 2,000 people in the northern town of Vavuniya as they headed to the largely Tamil north from the predominantly Sinhala

Reporters were not allowed anywhere near the detention site, where police said they

were sifting through the people in search of the bomb-ers, who have been denounced by the United Striking Russian miners threaten suicide over pay

USSIAN coal miners, who | trade union committee of coal | face up to their problems, have been on strike for 12 | workers, told the ltar-Tass | Mr. Kiryasov said. Eight time zones east of Moscow, the Primorsky region reported that local Mlami and Vladivostok, its port capital, have been in the grip of an attack on the flight, which energy crisis which industry officials say could lead to an-other winter of severe power The situation in the region of Primorsky Krai are cuts. The region of Primorsky Krai are cuts. The region of Coal industry has reached "boiling point".

Pyotr Kiryasov, head of a Russian government does not ments.—Reuter. cuts. The region is dependent on coal for electricity and is caught in a spiral of non-pay

Hijacked plane flies to Miami

AMAN who hijacked an Iberia airliner en route from Madrid to Havana. forcing it to fly to Miami international airport, was ex-pected to surrender peace-

fully last night. The man was reported to be a Cuban national and to have told flight crew that he was carrying a bomb. Television reports said he was talking to FBI agents and had said he wished to

give himself up. Details of the hijacker's identity and motivation were sketchy last night but the hijack occurred on the most important date in the Cuban revolutionary calen dar, the anniversary of the attack on the Moncada bar-racks. CNN television runs six times a week between the Spanish and Cu-

White House officials had been briefed about the incident. - Foreign Staff.

Two admit to racist attack

WO men have confessed to a racist attack near Berlin last month which left a Birmingham building worker paralysed, writes Denis Stoun-

The state prosecutor's office in Potsdam said the two men, aged 17 and 24, admitted following Noel Martin's car and throwing a large stone before hitting a tree.

A man arrested on Monday in connection with the incident has been released. Police said he was falsely identified. Brandenburg's prime min-ister, Manfred Stolpe, has rejected Green Party accusa tions that police failed to investigate the attack for four ks until it was reported in the Observer last Sunday. "As soon as it was clear it might be an extreme right-wing attack. it was investigated with intensity," he said The Greens have opened an account for donations to help pay for Mr Martin's treat-ment and transport home.

HUGE FOR HOLIDAY MONEY

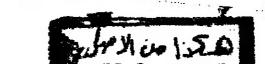




available foreign currency and travellers cheques.







Minister threatens bloody intervention as first woman protester dies

Ankara gives ultimatum to hunger strikers in jails

Chris Nuttall in Ankara

WOMAN, aged 22 became the eighth hunger striker to die in a Turkish prison last night, and the country's justice minister warned inmates to abandon their protest or risk a bloody operation to reake the juile. to retake the jails.

Ayse Idil Ekmen, the first woman to die in the country-wide hunger strike, had been refusing all food and even sugared water at Canakkale prison, near Istanbul. She was on trial for being a mem-ber of an illegal leftwing

A few hours earlier, Tahsin

lutionary Communist Union, died in Bayrampasa prison, one of two Istanbul jalis the government admits are no longer under its control.

International," he said. "I only care about what happens in the jails. Turkey is an independent country."

The European commis-

The justice minister said the hunger strikers in Bayrampasa were in 19 dor-mitories, containing 40 to 80 inmates, which prison officers could no longer enter.

Sympathetic guards had helped them to obtain guns, cellular phones and even Sevket Kazan told journal sists: "This is the last call from this time onwards, if they don't stop their death fasting, we will be forced to improve the force of the force of

Mr Kazan said there were five ringleaders, who were preventing those fasting from receiving medical treatment. The hardline minister dismissed mounting interna-tional criticism of the Turkish government's failure to prevent the deaths.

"I don't give a damn about foreign press reports and let-ters from Amnesty Amnesty

sioner Hans van den Broek wrote to Turkey's foraign min-ister, Tansu Ciller, urging her to try to prevent further deaths. Diplomats saw the let-ter as a thinly velled reminder to Ankara of its promise to im-prove human rights in exchange for a customs deal with the European Union.

In Brussels, socialist members of the European Parliament threatened to block EU funds for Turkey in budget talks later this year. France has counselled Ankara to compromise.

Italy has made a "pressing appeal" to Turkey's government to improve prison conditions. The Italian foreign ministry said the hunger strike could damage Ankara's

to push through promised improvements in jall conditions as quickly as possible.

Boun's plea came after a fourth successive night of firebomb attacks on Turkish properties in Correct which

properties in Germany which police believe were the work of supporters of the hunger strike.

Meanwhile, in southern Austria five Turks started a hunger strike in solidarity with the fasting prisoners.

The pro-Kurdish Dem news agency reported that leaders of 10,000 jailed Kurdish militants had announced they

would join the hunger strike.
Pictures on Turkish television showed flags of the PKK
Kurdish separatist party on
the roof of Bayrampasa jail.
Turkent's health ministry

Turkey's health ministry said 314 inmates were involved in the "death-fast", and 60 were in a serious

The public security minis-ter, Avigdor Kahalani, said that ballistics experts believe the two attacks were carried

out by the same militant cell.

He also linked the latest killings with the deaths of an

army doctor and medical or-derly between Hebron and Bethlehem in the West Bank

in January.
Israel Radio reported that the gunmen are most proba-bly linked with the radical

secular group, the Popular Front for the Liberation of



Police in Ankara beat a man during a rally which followed the death of Huseyin Demircioglu, one of the hunger strikers

Israeli PM hunts drive-by killers

HE Israeli prime minis-ter, Binyamin Netan-yahu, has ordered troops to seek out and destroy a Palestinian militant cell after two Israelis were killed

in a drive-by shooting.

The attack took place in Is-The attack took place in Israel, but the government strongly hinted that troops would be allowed to pursue the gummen into West Bank areas controlled by the Palestinian Authority. tinian Authority.

Within hours of the shooting the Israeli army had sealed off borders with the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, and ordered tens of thousands of Palestinian workers in Israel to return

home. The government had only recently begun to relax a ban on Palestinian workers, imposed after a wave of suicide bombings in February and March which killed 63 people.

"There will be no compromise in anti-terror actions, or limitations on the action of our security forces," said a statement issued after yesterday's weekly cabinet meeting. As a huge manhunt got under way, Mr Netanyahu inNew threat to peace process in West Bank settlement plans

1967.

THE Israeli prime minister, Binyamin Netan-vahu, is to stap up Jewish half of the West Bank since yahu, is to step up Jewish colonisation of the West Bank, writes Derek Brown.

in the territory.

Ironically, the bypass roads were built by the previous Labour-led government to lessen friction between the 145,000 or so Jewish settlers and the 1 million Palestinians of

the West Bank.
The reported expansion geous step and freeze all plans have outraged Pales-settlement activity."

Palestinian Authority act to

quash the terror of the terror-ist organisations, without dis-tinction," he said. The first Israeli civilians killed in the conflict since Mr Netanyahu took office on June 18 were in a car 10 miles within the so-called green line

militants. "We demand the with gunfire from a passing

Saeb Erekat, a senior

member of the self-rule au-thority, told the Israeli daily newspaper Ha'aretz that new settlements could

provoke a popular uprising and the collapse of the

Uri Munk, aged 60, and his daughter-in-law, Rachel Munk, were killed instantly. His son, Ze'ev, was critically wounded, and his wife, Eliza. was treated for shock. The attack took nisce nea

Moshav Tirosh, where an Is sisted that the Palestinians in — which marks Israel's pre- raeli couple were gunned the autonomous areas must 1967 border with Jordan — down in similar circumalso do more to combat the | when the vehicle was raked | stances in early June.

peace process.
"Does the government of Israel not understand that the settlements mean that Palestine.

Meanwhile, the Israeli foreign secretary, David Levy, has demanded that the Palesin 20 to 30 years the region tinian Authority closes three will be in a condition simioffices in Orient House in lar to Bosnia?" he said.
"I beseech this govern-Arab east Jerusalem, and another elsewhere, Israel Radio

The report came as the United States peace envoy, Dennis Ross, began a meeting with the Palestinian president, Yasser Arafat, in the

Geza Strip. Mr Arafat denied knowledge of the shooting, but was

"This is another breach of what has been agreed upon, be told reporters.

News in brief

Fight to save Chinese city

Chinese police and voluntee braved summer heat yester-day to man dykes holding in

Yangtze.
"Under any circumstances we will ensure the water does not enter. Wuhan," Huang Jianguo, deputy chief engi-neer of the Hubet water bureau said in the provincial capital. - Reuter.

Grozny crackdown Chechenia's pro-Moscow polics fired into the air in Grozny yesterday to stop hundreds of independence supporters moving towards a government building in the centre of the capital. The demicative of the capital. onstrators were demanding a withdrawal of Russian

Blow to Aideed

The Somali faction leader Mohamed Farah Aideed has lost control of his main airport at Ballidogle and may have been wounded in heavy clan fighting, Somali and foreign sources said - Reuter.

SA minister fired President Nelson Mandels of South Africa said yesterday he had fired an outspoken deputy minister, Bantu Holo-misa, who accused a cabinet colleague of baving taken a bribe.—Reuter.

Bosnia casualty Lieutenant Jean-Marie Etienne, a French soldier in the Nato-led peace force in Bosnia, lost a foot in a land-mine explosion a few miles south of Sarajevo.—Reuter. 500,000 lire note

proved a plan to introduce 500,000 fire (£210) bills. — AP. Sandinista blast Nicaragua's Sandinista Front confirmed that its office in Miami was fire-bombed this week, but an official said that the office would remain open.—Reuter.

The Italian cabinet has ap-

Holier than thou Bulgaria's Orthodox Church has decided to pronounce a curse on Metropolitan Pimen, aged 90, who defied its author-ity and was enforced as a

rival patriarch, a church offi-cial said yesterday. — Reuter.

Prickly customer Wilderness officials in the Black Hills, South Dakota, reopened a campground yesterday after trapping a porcu-pine that had been dining on visitors' car wires and brake

Islamist violence continues Algerian officials, how

reports on the latest attempt ... by the Algerian: president (right) to reach an agreement on his proposals for reshaping the political system

Heba Saleh

HE Algerian president. Lamine Zeroual, is about to start a new round of meetings with political parties to try to

reach a consensus on pro-posals that would reshape the political system.

The talks come amid an intensification of the vio-lent campaign waged by Is-lamic militants. Assastna-tions and bomb explosions have hit small towns sur-rounding Algiers, leaving at least 30 people dead and more than 100 injured.

The latest to die was a journalist; aged 24, shot dead in a car-east of Algiers on Tuesday night while her father sat beside her, the Algerian newspaper Liberté reported yesterday. Farida Bouzian had worked for a local newspaper in Tizi Ouzou, north-east

Algeria.
The previous round of talks failed to produce agreement on the president's proposals for extensive constitutional changes before parliamentary alexbefore parliamentary elec tions next year. The main sticking point has been the parties' insistence that the new parliament should draft the amended constitution.

constitution.

Mr Zeroual has proposed holding a "national conference", grouping all legal political forces; to finalise the changes before putting them to a referendum. He wants to introduce amendwants to introduce amendments to prohibit parties from using Islam, Arabic and the indigenous Berber culture for political purposes. He also wants to create a bicameral parliament in which one of the chambers would be appointed, and he wants to strengthen his powers to rule by his powers to rule by



Zeroual convenes talks as

on the formation of political parties, to ensure that only those with significant national support would be legalised.

Some analysts say his proposals would enhance confidence in the system and prevent a repeat of the and prevent a repeat of the upheavals which accompanied the legislative elections in 1991, when the army halted the election before the second round to prevent the populist Islamic Salvation Front (FIS) from a philating a lendelide from achieving a landslide victory.

Since then, the FIS has been banned and its more radical supporters bave paign against the state. Analysts argue that by adopting a cautious approach to democratisation, Mr Zeroual is ensuring that a space - albeit limited -would survive for pluralist debate within a strong state in which he continues to oc-

in which he continues to oc-cupy a key position. Most of the main parties, however, fear an assembly set up under the new rules would be a toothless talking shop. The mainly-Berber Socialist Forces Front, FFS, said Mr Zeronal's proposals would create an "instituwould create an "institu-tional dictatorship", while Said Saadi, leader of the small but vocal secular Raily for Culture and De-mocracy, said: "The totali-

tarian trend is near."
Other main parties have been more muted in their criticisms, but have made it clear they want an elected parliament to amend the constitution.

. Some parties, such as the moderate Islamist Hamas, have criticised the propos

ing the question of the violence.

ever, express optimism that the talks will eventually result in consensus. They say the proposals are open to discussion, and they point to the parties' contin-ued participation in the meetings as a positive sign. The parties are aware that their room for ma-nocuvre is limited, and that they have to take part or risk total marginalisation. One opposition leader said

boycotting the next election was "not an option".

When the main opposition parties, including the outlawed FIS, defied Mr Zeroual by calling for a boycott of last November's presidential election, their challenge failed. About 75 per cent of the voters turned out and Mr Zeroual

majority. Heba Saleh is the North Africa Correspondent of the BBC World Service

won by a convincing

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Cliche should add diamonds to gold

ing and did not represent as

severe a test of stamina as

might have been anticipated.

Looking at Classic Cliche and Pentire side by side, it is

met 13 months ago.
Pentire is smallish; Classic

have a good record in this championship event. He still

Graham Rock predicts further success for the versatile Godolphin four-year-old

LASSIC CLICHE is a but the Gold Cup this year top-class horse who has had few chances run race at the Royal meetto prove his worth over a mile and half. I believe he is capable of becoming the first horse to win both the As-

cot Gold Cup and the King George VI and Queen Elizabeth Diamond Stakes.

In last year's King Edward VII Stakes over the course and distance of today's Diamond race he was beaten two apparent that my selection has made much the greater physical progress since they and distance of today's Diamond race, he was beaten two and a half lengths by Pentire, conceding the winner alle, and consequently would have finished about a length behind the winner at level weights.

Since then their paths have diverged. Pentire went on to win the Great Voltigeur Stakes and the Irish Champion Stakes before finishing fourth in the Dubai World Cup and third in the Coral-Eclipse — the last three races

Pentire is smallish; Classic Cliche has more scope and I believe he will improve and beat his old rival this time.

Of course, Pentire is not the only serious rival to Classic Cliche. The Derby winner Shaamit has been heavily supported in recent days, and is favourite with the majority of bookmakers.

He won a moderate Derby in the style of a good horse, and three-year-olds, who receive 121b from their elders, Eclipse — the last three races all run over 10 furlongs. Classic Cliche has won his

has a little to find to suggest he could win today, and his three latest races, the St Leger, Yorkshire Cup and Ascot Gold Cup. At York he accounted for Strategic Choice and should beat him again on

Oscar Schindler was flat out to beat Annus Mirabilis over today's course and dis-tance in the Hardwicke Stakes last month.

The runner-up was only third to Posidonas in the Princess Of Wales's Stakes at Newmarket, and is reduced to a pacemaking role today; the form does not look good

Luso, who will be ridden by John Reid following an injury to Olivier Peslier, is an interto Olivier Peslier, is an illustesting outsider. He was beaten by Strategic Choice in the Gran Premio di Milano last time, but his trainer, Clive Brittain, explained that his horse had been suffering the effects of severe mosquito bites, inflicted the night before the race. fore the race. Earlier this season Luso

won the Earl Of Sefton Stakes, and finished a half-length second to Valanour in the Prix Ganay. Brittain has landed several shock victories over the years and I would not be surprised to see Luso thereabouts inside the

Luso thereabouts inside the final furlong.

With his pacemaker Annus Mirabilis likely to set a strong gallop to blunt the speed of the fastest finishers, Classic Cliche (3.50), who could be available at 5-1 in places, should reach at least a place. should reach at least a place ough I believe this tough, resattle colt can give Godol-in a second consecutive tory in this event.



Record seeker . . . Classic Cliche bids to become the first horse to win Ascot's top two races

The Guardian Saturday July 27 1996 Bolshoi bowls in for Brown

WHILE England were battling with Paking with Paking with Paking with Paking and Westerday, for the start was watching his sprinter Bolshoi win Assprinter Bolsho Centre Stakes by a whisker from Sylva Paradise. uriles

from Sylva Factors

Graham Rock.

Bolshoi earned a 7lb penalty for the Stewards' Cup at Goodwood next Saturat Goodwood next saturat Goodwood next field to find a place in the field.

Brown, now a commer.

day, and will be more that to find a place in the field.

Brown, now a commercial breeder, said: "He needs to come through nerses and Emma (O'Gorman) showed some nerve."

The winner survived a stewards' inquiry, as did Bolivar, who outstayed Golden Arrow by a head in the Brown Jack Handicap.

Richard Quinn, successful on Bolivar, had earlier initiated a double when the odds-on Mayfair made a successful debut in the Food Brokers Stakes.

"She's not a flying machine like her sister, Magic Ring." said wining trainer Paul Cole. "But she is very relaxed, and I think she'll get further."

Earl's Croome Church, Upton-on-Severn, was over-

Upton-on-Severn, was overflowing yesterday as more than 500 mourners paid their last respects to Richard Davis, the 26-year-old jockey killed in a fall at Southwell eight days ago.

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802 2-8000 SEAUCHARP JAZZ (21) (D) J Decisp 4-8-12 JJ (Kinene 6

803 10-000 KAYVIR (21) (CD) (FF) Mrs. J Rameden 4-9-9 JA (Clink 4

804 00000 KAYVIR (21) (CD) (FF) Mrs. J Rameden 4-9-9 JR (Clink 4

805 11-0-006 KI (CR SAZA (29) J Dishop 4-9-1 JC (CR SA

5.35 SLACKHEST HANDICAP IN 41 27,198

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					HAMMAF TYO 2m E1,586
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1	:	5	99-488	SHOEMAKER LEVY (35	5) R. O'Sullivan 7-10
_	1	OF F	OMN TH	S: Serious Treat 9, Inflat	race Person 7 Trust, 7-2 Starling Fellow, 4-1 Chacolate Ion, 7-1 Hegally Yours,
	-[:	3-18	posmeja:	Lary.	5) R ("Sulfran 7-10
	1	-	0	PROTEIN RESTRICAY LE	ENTED STAKES (A.W.) 71 £1,567
	- I	0,1	W TAL	S FORT KNOX (2) (CD) F	R Rower 5-0-8 D Herricon 1#
	- }	ż	80000	NAMAS STORE (5) (C	E(5) S Woods 4-5 W Woods 8+
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	- 1	5	32-00 0220	LA TANSANI (5) R Har	mon 3-5-9 Dane O'Hell (3) 4
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	- 1		aga 5-2 L	a Tensani, 3-1 Fort Knox.	RTED STAKES (A.M.) 7f C2,867 R Rower 5-9-5
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	- 1	8.	40 H	LAT. HISTALLERS JULY	MARCHEAP SYC 1 in 21 105yds E3,125 nlop 9-7 T Quies 1 th 3 (7) (6) (0) T Naughlon 9-2 Paul Eddery 4 ins J Goell 8-4 A Clark 2 McCormack 9-8 W Woods 5 8(0) D Morkey 8-4 R Cockrams 3 The Socks 7 spin, 7-1 Two Socks, 9-2 Spinning Mouse, 7-1 South Wind 5
	١	1	0-24	ST MINORISANE (24) JOUR	(7) (C) (D) T Naughton 9-2 Paul Eddery 4
,	, m	2	313	NO SOUTH WEED (28) M	irs J Cecil 8-9
-	-	3	965	OF SPHENNIG MOUSE (C	60) D Morley 5-4
	_	TOP	FORM T	TPS: Alistara Express B.; ? Alistara Express, 3–1 Minus	two seems / right, 7-1 Two Socks, 9-2 Spinning Mouse, 7-1 South Wind 6
w		Total	1075		

kered today the first time: ASCOT: 3.50 Annus Mirabilis, LINGFIELD: 8.10 ton Venture, NEWCASTLE: 3.25 Samspet, Verripong, SOUTHWELL: 6.25 films: 8.35 Comedie Arrete, Tirlie, Shippery Fin STRATFORD: 2.25 Desert 4.10 Harristoen Lady. NR Organg. 1, SIR ARTHUR HOBES, T S.10 (1m): 1, SIR ARTHUR HOBES, T Siddall (3-4 lav). 2, Flag Fem (8-1), 2, Anomyrs (70-1) 8 ran. 8, 18 (J Eyre) Tota: 12.10, £1 50 £280 £2.10 Dual F £20 80 CSF £18 70 Tricast £1.0 36, GUADPOTI £4 30 PLACEPOTI: £12.60 WOLVERHAMPTON WOLVERHAMPTON

2.26 (5/): 1, MARJORIE ROSE, D Wright

(11-1): 2, Maptice Star (7-4 lay): 3, Marsasoldino (33-1) 8 fan Na 4 (A Bailey) Toto

C11 70: (28 00, 11 20: 88 00 Dual F 120 40,

CSF: (2/8 94 Tricast ES72.88;

2.55 (1m 10 Opdsb: 1, ETMBAAT, M Rich
gros (3-1 lay): 2, Micolar's Princess (9-1);

3, Donne Pabrel (16-1) 13 ran 3.4 (W Mur's

Tota: (2.86) (2.00, 64 70, (1.86) Dual F

C41.40 Trio E14.80, CSF: (23).22

3.25 (4m 17 79 yes): 1, DEADLINE TRIE;

K. Darloy (5-1): 2, Molebid (9-4 fav): 3,

Philistar (11-1); 13 ran Ni, ni, fin's M

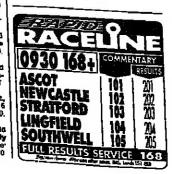
Reveley) Toto, (7.60; (2.70; 1.20, 64.90)

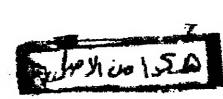
Dual F: (2.71 to Trio, 220 20, CSF: 11.857

Tricast C123 46

Dual F: £17 10 Tro. £20 20. £27.0. £4.90
Dual F: £17 10 Tro. £20 20. £5. £18.57
Tricast £123 46
4.00 (697 1, PEARS, D'AZUR, C F McCabe
(11-5 fav): 2, Sorious Sensation (14-1): 3,
Shackathack (33-1): 12 ran. 25, 25, 10
Loder Tote £2.10, £1.40, £2.70 £9.50 Dual
F £25.10, Tro: £1117 40, £5F £22.42 NP:
Fress On Nicey, 5 ph pound deduction
4.30 (65P: 1, ADVANCE REPRO, M Tebbut (11-4 tay), 2, Heaventy Miss (9-2); 3,
Abstrone Guesn (100-30), 7 ran. 1% 2, 1)
Abstrone Tote £2 50, £1.30 £2.50, Dual F
£9.10 £5F £15 €3 NR Suppy Was A Kiwn,
8.00 (2m); 1, Mil.NGAVIE, Miss V Marshall (7-1), 2, Out School House (5-2 fav);
3, Greek Night Out (7-2), 10 ran Sh td, 6
(18 Smarth Tote £7.70; £1.90, £1.80 £2.50,
Dual F £19.70 Tro: £1.20, £2.50, £2.53,
Trocast £89 18
GUADPOTI £2.00 PLACEPOT: £34 00

Eventing results on page 9.









Wild Thing takes 89

OHN DALY never does anything by half measures. When he is good he is very, very good but when he is bad he is so awful that even his best friends are emberged of the friends are embarrassed. The Wild Thing lived up to his sobriquet here yesterday when he made a rapid and red-faced departure from the Dutch Open after taking 89 strokes to complete his second round on the thickly wooded Hilver-sum course. On the corre-sponding day last year he

took 66.

Daly, winner of the 1991 US
PGA title and last year's Open
champion, returned a 22-overpar 164, 33 strokes behind the
halfway leader Des Smyth.
After Daly's opening 75 he jettisoned every wood from his
hag but it made no difference. bag but it made no difference. His card for the first nine holes read: 4, 6, 5, 9, 4, 7, 5, 6, 5, and there were two more

zero-iron, Daly was reduced to hitting five-irons from the tee to try to keep his ball in play. He did not succeed until the 11th. When two television crews arrived at the 15th for a

Daly had to be persuaded from walking off the course by his partners Frank Nobilo and Philip Walton. He just avoided the indignity of taking 90 by achieving his only birdie at the par-five 18th.

By then the promoter Robbie Van Erven Dorens was resigned to losing his star attraction, while Daly's Dutch benefactor, the millionaire property developer Harry Mens, was putting on his bravest face. He had forked out £60,000 to hire Daly and it was the second time he had not his finger human.

got his fingers burnt.

In 1989 he paid a similar
Dutch Open appearance fee to
the new Open champion Mark Calcavecchia, who also lasted only 36 holes. "John has mega peaks and troughs and he is not a mediocre fellow." said Dorens. "He is also a very nice person and we wanted him to perform but he is completely crazy."

Nobile and Walton, who both shot 68 despite the diss, and there were two more sixes, at the 12th and 14th, before he regained some semblance of control.

After a nine at the long 4th, where he twice drove out of bounds with his signature zero-iron, Daly was reduced to hitting five-irons from the walk off."

Daly has five days to regroup before the Volvo Scandinavian Masters start-ing in Gothenburg on

Rugby League

Edwards may be on his way

Paul Fitzpatrick

HAUN EDWARDS, the Wigan scrum-half and captain and the most decorated player in the game's history, appears to be on a collision course with his club and could be on his way out of Central Park.

The 29-year-old Great Brit-ain international half-back declared himself unfit for last night's Super League game with Halifax Blue Sox because of a knee cartilege problem. He also missed last week's game in Paris after being told that he would be on the substitutes' bench and that Craig Murdock would be

Now, following the departure of Martin Offiah - expected to sign for London Broncos this morning, too late to make his debut against St Helens tonight — Edwards believes that he might be the punching in the match next high-profile player to against Bradford last Satur-

leave Wigan.
"I heard on the grapevine a couple of days after we beat St Helens that Wigan Were after selling me," said Edwards have made inquiries about vesterday. "I thought I had Warrington's back lestyn

really a big dent to my confidence.

"I've been dropped in the last two games and now I have read the speculation that they want to sell me. Maybe it's right." Edwards joined Wigan as a 17-year-old in 1963 and is the club's longest-serving player.
Graeme West, Wigan's coach, would not elaborate on any possible "showdown" be-

tween player and club. "I am not sware of any plan to get rid of him," said West. "Shaun has a long-running problem and says ha feels he is not right to play. If he makes himself available he will be considered for The Warrington winger

Richard Henare and the St Helens utility player Andy Northey have received twomatch suspensions after being placed on report. Henare was found guilty of day and Northey of a dangerous tackle at Oldham.

A number of leading rugby union clubs are believed to have made inquiries about had a good game and it was | Harris, listed at £1.35 million.

Good-bye battery

30

Welcome to the future: Seiko Kinetice, the first

quartz watch that turns your movement into

power. Every move you make is converted into

electrical impulses by a tiny built-in powerhouse.

Ecological, reliable and efficient wear it one day

to gain energy for at least two weeks. Wear it

daily - it will run continually. Made of titanium:

light, yet strong and kind to your skin. 20 bar-

water resistant. One-way rotating bezel and

screw lock crown. Seiko Kinetic - it's built to last.

Someday all watches will be made this way.



Narrow view . . . Hill maintains his focus at practice yesterday despite rumours of his replacement by Frentzen 👚 мкжа инам

I avoids the diversion

Alan Henry at Hockenheim finds the Briton happily cool away from the cockpit of gossip happily cool away from the cockpit of gossip

man Grand Prix here yesterday but the solitude afforded by the cockpit of his Williams-Renault FW18 must have been welcome relief from the frenzy of speculation surrounding his future which had gripped the paddock since he arrived on Thursday

Nevertheless his arch-rival Michael Schumacher, who set the seventh fastest time in his Ferrari, could not resist asked whether he would expect more competition if his former Mercedes-Benz sports car team-mate Heinz-Harald said. "But we have also been cent direction for tomorrow's qualifying session."

Cent direction for tomorrow's qualifying session."

Meanwhile Gerhard Berger posted the fastest time in his

AMON HILL was frentzen replaced Hill in the only eighth fastest in Williams line-up next year. "That's a good question," he replied. "I don't know. We obviously don't know the diference between Frentzen and the two Williams drivers. If you know that, you know the answer. I have said many times that Heinz-Harald has a

lot of natural speed and I believe he can do much better than he is doing right now." As far as Frentzen, cur-rently with Sauber-Ford, was concerned, his manager Ortwin Podlech denied that any contract, or even an op-tion, had been concluded with

he thought there was the chance of a drive."

But Hill is concentrating on first victory for the Bene

clinching the world champi- team, was the only one of the onship: and extending his 15point lead over his team-mate Jacques Villeneuve remains his immediate priority. The keynote of his practice strategy was to conserve his tyres for today's hour-long qualify-

ing session.
"The car obviously alides around a lot in the low downforce trim we are running for a fast circuit like this," said Hill, "and I don't think we have yet hit on a decent [chas sis) set-up. But we have gathered enough data to get a de

Yet Berger, aiming for his first victory for the Benetton top three not to switch to new tyres - a reflection of the Austrian's superiority

Mika Hakkinen's McLaren Mercedes was fifth fastest, ahead of Martin Brundle's Jordan-Peugeot and the frustrated Schumacher who will have to work hard in qualifying to have a chance of a top three placing in tomorrow

"Irvine's time shows that the potential is there," he said. 'I think I will have a glance at Eddie's set-up solutions to get some ideas which will help me go well in qualifying." Hill would rather he did not.

Sport in brief

Sports Politics

The Newcastle United chair-

man Sir John Hall's dream of a single multi-sport empire

came to an end yesterday

when shareholders voted to

separate the Premier League

team from the non-football ac-tivities, which passed to the control of a new parent com-pany, the Sporting Club Ltd. Many of the soccer club's

supporters will welcome the

move, having feared the other

sports would draw cash away

from their team. The new in-

dividual names of the Sport-ing Club teams have been de-

cided: the ice, bockey team will be the Newcastle Cobras;

basketball the Newcastle Ea

nicknamed The Falcons.

gles: and the Newcastle

Rugby Football Club will be

Results

SOCCET

UEFA CUP DRAW: Preliminary records
FC Koeice (Slovak) v Ceitic, Legia Warsaw
(Poi) v Haka RY (Fmi; Rapd Bucharest
(Pom) v Lokomotiv Solia (Buli; Sisema
Wanderers (Maits) v Odense Boldkitm
(Jen); Heraritis Thessatoniki (Gre) v Aposl
Nicosais (Cyp); Crostia Zagreb (Cro) v Moscow Spatrak (Rus), Partizan Belgrade
(Yug) v National Bucharest (Rom); Dinamo
Tolisi (Seo) v Molice (Nor); Lynghy (Den) v
Mura (Sloven); Hahmetads BK (Seo) v Vardar (Maci; Dynamo Moscow (Rus) v PC
Jazz (Fin), Zaigrie Vilnius (Lith) v Aberdeen; Budapes; Vasutas (Hun) v Barry
Town; Helsingborg (Swe) v Drhatmo-93
Minsk (Bel): Hedjuk Solit (Cro) v Torpedo
Moscow (Rus); FA Aarau (Swrtz) v FC Lantana (Est) Dinamo Minsk (Bel) v Besittas
(Tuz): KJK Nebsinki (Fin) v Chernomorotis
Odessa (Uto); Neuchatiel Xariax (Swrtz) v Ac
orthosis Farnagusta (Cyp); Sigma Olomouc (Cr Hep) v SK Hudnik Krakow (Poi).
Akranes (bea) v CSKA Moscow (Rus): Trol
inservet (Auri) v Siavis Solia (Bul); Solvan
Bratislava (Slovak) v Trabzonspor
Tur), FC Skomo (Lad v Malme F) (Swe)
Beltar Jerusalem (ler) v FK Bodo (Nor)
Malches to be played on August 8 and 20.

PRasentw Lagguste

Rugby League AUSTRALIAN PREMIERSHIP: Gold Coast 14, N Queensland 24, Brisbane 26 Sydney Tigare 6. Golf

GOIT

DUTCH OPEN (Hilversum): Second round leading qualifiers (GEA/re united state). "Amateur): 134 D Smyth 84, 67 132 IS well as the control of the control

**Imageuri: 145 C Schmitt (Pr) 71, 71; A Nicholus 59, 73; S Eriksson (Swe) 71, 71; P Grico-Whittaker 71, 71, 145 T Johnson 70, 72; M Pret 110, 72, 71, 145 A Shapcott 70, 74; M McKinlay 75, 95, 1, 20 Davies 71, 72, 445 F Dassu (Ith) 72, 72; A-M kinght (Alab) 73, 72; G Stewart 71, 74; M Fink (Auf) 73, 72; G Stewart 71, 74; M Fink (Auf) 73, 72, 146 S Nickin 75, 71; L Lambert (Aus) 75, 72, A Shickin 75, 71; L Lambert (Aus) 75, 72, A Shickin 75, 75, 147 A Arrun (Sp) 74, 73; L Pansen (LS) 71, 72, A Canada (6-1), 2-1 Fav Oud-balts, 11 r.a., Hd, 5, (8 McMeth) Tote 05 Out

Tennis ABSTRIAN OPEN (Kitzbuhel): Generater-finalis E Alvarvas (Sp) of T Munter (Aur) 6-1, 7-5, & Bernanstago (Sp) bt F Squitari (Arg. 6-3, 1-8, 6-2; J-A, Wilson (Sp) bt N Kiefer (Ga) 7-5, 6-4. EUROPEAN U-16 CRAMPIONSHIPS HUROPHAIR
(Herist: Beys quarter-finals: R vin (her)
bt J Jeanplarta (Fr) 8-3, 6-8; A Derepeatic (Fas) bt C Flochus (Bei) 8-3, 6-4; I
Lahadze (Geo) pt M Safin (Fus) 8-4, 6-4;
(Lahadze (Geo)) the Majin (Geo)
(Mari et al. Majingas (Gei) walkover.

"Res' et al. Majingas (Gei) walkover. Labaque (Goo) Di M Sajin (Filis) 6-4, 6-4; A Ram (Sr) Di X Maligae (Bel) wellkover.

Gibte quarter-finalis: G Gebertham (Ger)

Di L' Del Angelo (t) 6-3, 6-3; S Uricitores
(Sioval.) Di K Cheveller (Fr) 6-4, 6-1; M

Wilhafactie (Rom) Di E Le Vescond (Fr)

6-4, 6-2; S Sebova (Siovak) bi J Srebolnik
(Siovan) 6-3, 6-4.

Baseball AMERICAN LEAGUE: Cleveland 10. Bal-imore 7: Kansas City 7. New York 0; Toronto 4. Oakland 3; Mionescia 16. Bos-ion 6; Texas 4, Chatago 3; California 5; Minepulse 4; Detroit 7; Seatile 4 BATIONAL LEAGUE: Los Angeles 6. Fiorda 3: Prinsburgh 6; Philadelphia 4; Montrea! 4; Si Louis 2; San Francisco 4, Atlanta 3; Chicago 10, Colorado 8.

Cricket Warman HOGO TROPPTY Bournesmouths Worcester 165. Hampehire 157-6 (W Kendall 41no; Leatherdale 5-29), Hards won by lour wickers Testestoner Scenerae; 233 (M Trescothick 70. J Hallett 71; Hemp 4-14). Glamorgan won by 62 runs. The Ovals. Surrey. 275-8 (D Ward 109). Kent 277-5. Kent won by five wickels.

Motor Racing MISTOP Hadding
GERSIAN GP (Hockennern) Leading
fitnes after opening practice sessions 1.

3 Berger (Aur) Benetton fmin 45.145ses
(average speed 143.79mph); 2. D Coutinard (GB) Hockaren 1.45.184; 3, E Irvine
(GB) Ferrari 1.46.1984; 4, J Aleas (Fr) Benetton 1.45.294; 5, M Hakkinen (Fin) McLaren
(A5.284, 8, M Brunde (GB) Jordan
(A5.487, 7, M Schumacher (Ger) Ferrari
7.45.986; 8, O Hill (GB) Williams 1.45.986;
9, R Barrichelto (Br) Jordan 1.47.110; 10, P
Dince (Br) Ligier 1.47.595; 11, J Villeasuiva
(Can) Williams 1.47.595; 12, O Panis (Fr)
Ligier 1.47.688.

Evening Racing NEWMARKET

6.15 (1m 4f): 1, MY EMMA, J Calinn (4-5 Fav): 2, Flammands (40-1): 3, Glagger Fox (7-2) 7 ran 2, 3, 18 duent Tota: £1.80; £1.40, £5.20 Dupl F: £30.80, CSF: £20.45. 18.20 Dual F 120.80, CSF; 120.45, 6-48 (1sp. 427; 1, ANGUS-64, 1 Outnn (11-4 Fav); 2, Falsa, (5-1); 3, Outon Store-For-Lucia (16-1); 8, ran a, such (Mrs M Revetey) Tote 12.70, 17.70, 12.10, (1.90, Dual F; 53.40, CSF 15; 26 Tracast 115.5, 26, 7.15 (et al. 1); 10.71 (et al. 1); 10.71

6.30 (1m 1f 213 ydn); 1, ACTION JACS, SON, G Bardwell (4-1), 2, Yuppy Olei (12-1); 3, Arcettera (8-1); 2-1 Fav Owd-bells, 11 ran, Hd. 5, 6 McMathj Tote £5 00; (2.40, £5.20, £2.50, Dual F £19.50, Trio

C2.40, 15.20, C2.60, Dural F. 119.60, Trio: D86.70, C5F; C49.53, 7.00 (Ef 1 3 yell) 14, CMESSPYR, J Carroll (5-2); 2, Sheetel (7-1); 3, Sengles (4-1), 2-1 Feb Premium Ciri. 9 ran. 1, hd (4-1), 2-1 Feb Premium Ciri. 9 ran. 1, hd (4-1), 2-1 Feb Premium Ciri. 95; C3.50, C2.10, Dual F. C18.30, Trio: C22.70, C5F; C3.95, T. 10, Darl F. C18.30, Trio: C22.70, C5F; C3.95, T. 10, C5F; C3.95, T. 10, C5F; C3.95, T. 10, C5F; C3.95, T. 10, C5F; C3.95, C Select Lady.

8.00 (1m Séguis): 1, MELFORD SOUND.

9.00 (1m Séguis): 1, MELFORD SOUND.

10-11; 3, Topas (20-1), 6 ran. Nr. 4. (4. Fanshaws): Tole: £1.10; £1.10, £2.10. Duni F £1.90. CSF. £2.67.

Weekend fixtures

Soccer

SOCCOT
USEFA U-18 CHAMPIONSHIP: Finalist
Group At France v Belgium (4.3d): Portugal v Hungary (4.3d). Group Be Spain v
Italy (5.0). Rep of Iroland v England (5.0).
LITTLEWOOD'S SIR JOHN MOORES
CENTEDARY THOPHY (Anleid): Everton
v Borussia Munchen Gladbech (2.0): I. herpool v FC Porto (4.3d). Tomenews (Boodison PK): Losers play for 3rd and 4th (2.d)
Wirmens play in (final (4.3d).
FRIENDLY MATCHEES Bournamouth v
Bristol Phys. Brechn v Rath; Blyth Spar

PRESENDAY MATCHESS Bournamouth variations of Motherwell Cartists v. Kimmanocit, chroisely in Motherwell Cartists v. Kimmanocit, Cherissey Th v. Brentlord: Dorchester V. Ozford Util: Galway Lid v. Folkman, Gillungham v. Nother Forest; Glocester C. v. Kiddarminster: Heilita v. Rochdale. Harrow Boro v. Chesham; Holywell v. Stoke; Home Boro v. Chesham; Holywell v. Stoke; Home Farm Everton v. Ablon; Huff v. Botion; Hyde Util v. Huddersfield; Monagham Util v. Huddersfield; Monagham Util v. Paddersfield; Monagham Util v. Padders

KEVIN MORRIS BENEFIT MATCH Rugby League

Trongs EUPER LEAGUE: London v S Heleng (6.0), Tossorrows Bradford v Old ham (6.0): Leeds v Paris; Sheffield v Wat Ingson (5.5), Bramall Lane); Workington Castlelard. First Division: Rochdale Waterleid (7.0), Tossorrows Pealmerston v Keigniey (3.20); Hudderglield v Widne (6.30); Salford v Hull: Whitehaven v Dews bury (3.30); Salford v Hull: Whitehaven v Dews

Tomorrow STONES SUPER LEAGUE Sec

The Sheffield Wednesday manager David Pleat has returned from Turin confi-dent of signing the 23 million Juventus midfielder Attilio

ombardo next week. Daniel Amokachi is almost weekend for the leading Turksh team Besiktas, who have agreed to meet the Mersey ide club's asking price of £1.9 million for a player who cost them £3 million from FC Bruges two summers ago.

are also away first, the Scottish club against the Lithuanians Zaleiris Vilnius and the Welsh team against Hungary's Budapest Vasutas.

Tennis

The unseeded Spaniard Emilio Alvarez, ranked 160 in the world, pulled off a major shock when he beat the world No. 2 Thomas Muster 6-1, 7-4 in the quarter-finals of the Austrian Open in Ritzbuhel It was only Muster's third defeat on clay this year.

Rugby Union

Leading clubs threaten more trouble for RFU

Chris Hewett

HE fragile truce be-tween the Rugby Foot-ball Union and Eng-land's top sides will be in the balance once again this week-end when senior club officials meet to discuss a possible breakaway. English Professional Rugby Union Clubs Limited, the

pressure group representing the majority of clubs in Cour-age Leagues One and Two, has organised a meeting at Heathrow Airport tomorrow.

Some delegates will press for a decisive move towards independence in the light of this week's inconclusive talks over England's controversial £87.5 million television deal with BSkyB, the signing of which enraged the other home countries and led to ex-pulsion from next season's Five Nations Championship.

"It is becoming increasingly apparent that the RFU is unable to represent the interests of the senior clubs. We've always been confident of generating more money from competitions organised by ourselves and nothing that has happened recently has altered that view," said one Spruc insider.

It may well be that we will agree to play in league and

next season but then go our own way at the end of the campaign. We would in effect be giving the RFU a year's notice of our intention to break away."

The English clubs are deter-

mined to protect the £22.5 million earmarked for them under the Sky deal. They have repeatedly stated that their portion of the contract should be regarded as sacrosanct and not included in the financial bargaining between the warring home unions and feel that their stand has been reinforced by the decision of the leading Welsh clubs to sign their own £22 million, five-year contract with the same broadcaster. A united front between the top sides of both countries now seems

Less than a month before the start of the first profes-sional campaign in the his-tory of European rugby union the financial wrangling is be-

coming more complicated rather than less.
Leaving aside Epruc's concerns over the Sky money, clubs are also deeply worried about the commercial arrangements in place for the three new competitions organised since the end of last season, the European Cup, the second-tier European Conference and the Anglo-Welsh

Leeds almost united in greeting club's new dawn

local reactions after takeover is cleared

Outside Ulan Bator, which has an almost passionate connection with the Mongolian department of Leeds University, Yorkshire's largest city is favous internationally for famous internationally for

only one thing.
"Leeds? Ah, Leeds United that's what they say in every little nowhere village we've been in Spain and Greece," said Derek Steel, hovering by a Leeds United lampshade, allegedly for his wife's birthday, in the team's

city-centre souvenir shop.
"No, it's me who'd like it not her." he eventually admitted, "and anyway, £9.99's too much. Now about this here Gilman..." And the air of Boar Lane's pedestrian precinct went blue with the city's most familiar current tirade. Disappointment at Leeds's

old nearly-men syndrome. which returned to sap Howard Wilkinson's team in the 1996 Coca-Cola Cup final, has changed to anger at the rebel director Peter Gilman's attempt to stall the £16.5 million sale of the club to the Londonbased media group Caspian. While other Yorkshire men and women are berating the local water company for appointing a London chairman, Leeds fans cannot wait for their own metropolitan takeover to go through.

The difference is that Cas pian is guaranteeing floods of money to allow Wilkinson to build up his squad in the three weeks before the season starts. A couple of Leeds's younger supporters, 12-year-old Matthew Chadwick and his 10-year-old brother Luke. ebearse the arguments as eloquently as any. "If there hadn't been the de

lay on the sale, I don't think Gary McAllister would have left," said Matthew, in town to sus out the new all-white strip which will prompt a queue down the street to Burger King when it goes on sale today week. "Him going was really sad, because they badly need someone to do those brilliant penalty kicks. But, if they've got the money now, they should buy Alan Shearer and get Colin Hendry from Blackburn Rovers to tighten up the defence, which has got much too relaxed."

Wilkinson himself was cele-brating in the Flying Pizza, Leeds's see-and-be-seen joint in the suburb of Roundhay, FC Kosice away in the first leg of the qualifying round of the Uefa Cup on August 6.

Aberdeen and Barry Town builder with doubts about the control of the c Caspian and faith that the rival bidder — Conrad Lei-surewear of York — would pay more. Wilkinson de- the 1992 title.

Martin Wainwright on scribed the news as "fantastic" and told friends: "Now local reactions after we can start setting the new

Or not...Undeterred by a legal bill estimated at tee's testy references to "abuse of the process of the court" and "the most unfortunate damage already caused to the welfare of Leeds United FC", Gilman is spending more on solicitors' fees. H said yesterday: "I am seeking urgent advice from my law yers about applying for leave to appeal. I continue to believe that, at least in the medium term, Leeds will not benefit from centrol by

Persistence will require a thick skin for the builder, whose intervention is increasingly being portrayed as a threat to a new era for El-land Road. The former Lord Mayor, Councillor Denise Atkinson, a famous sight outside the ground at her per sonal car-park run for charities, says: "It's really scandalous. It's not just that we've lost McAllister of this man but that all sorts of plans for involving the chib with the rest of the city are in

danger of being held up."
Almost luminous in her yellow and scarlet uniform, At-kinson helped to block Leeds's attempt to buy Elland Road from the city council. to make room for basketball, ice hockey and pop concerts on the unused land around the stadium.

"Apart from the £12-£14 million they're talking about spending on players, they've made it clear that they want to bring more families and especially children to the ground, people who've been put off by the prices," she said. "One of the main reasons we kept the freehold was to maintain the involve ment of Leeds as a city with the club — like the five tick-ets all 99 councillors get every who wouldn't be able to go.
"I know all about the inter-

national reputation — I was in a tiny little place in Switzerland last year and the first thing they said to me was Leeds United'. But this deal promises to unite Leeds, and that's why we're all hoping that Mr Gilman now pipes

• The Leeds goalkeeper John Lukic has returned to Arsenal on a free transfer after six years with the club. Lukic, now 35, began his career with five seasons at Elland Road before joining Arsenal in 1984 and helping them to the championship in 1989. A year later he rejoined Leeds - after the Gunners bought David Seaman, and helped the Yorkshire club to

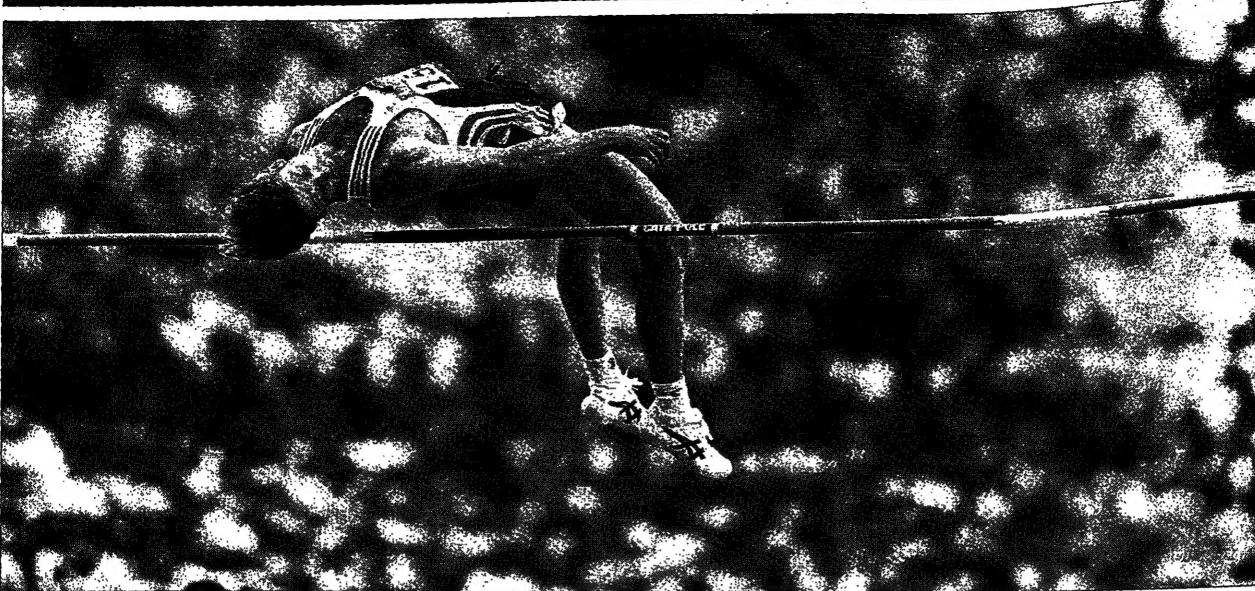
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Pickering and Dalton fall short Ukrainian triumph leaves

Athletics

Stephen Bierley

take full advantage of what passes for cool in At-lanta. In fact it was not particularly hot, the city being covered with a dense layer of grey cloud through which the sun failed to burn until much

later in the day. Three decades ago Ken Mat-thews won this event for Britain at the Tokyo Olympics but these days we have few walkers of quality. Four years earlier in Rome Don Thomp-son struck gold in the 50km trained, covered in towels, in a steam-filled sport, the South American

Many British athletes have taken full advantage of stateof the art technology to pre-pare for these Games, includ-training.

modern tech.
This week Steve Backley

admitted some of his prepara-tion for the javelin had en-tailed switching the hot taps on in his bathroom, creating HE 20-kilometre walk-ers were out bright and early yesterday to take full advantage of country will soon be yelling through a locked bathroom door: "Go away — I'm train-ing for the Olympics."
Yesterday's 20km walk win-ner, Jefferson Perez of Ecua-

dor, caught Russia's Ilya Markov in the last couple of kilometres. Markov finished fourth at the world championships in Gothenburg last year but could not match the pace of Perez in the closing stages.

This was Ecuador's first country's previous best being Jorge Delgado's fourth place in the 200 metres butterfly in Munich. So much for altitude

ing the use of pressure | Perez, who also became, at the required height of 2.28m. | outside lane. "When you are doing well."

not all 22 years old, the youngest winner of this title, produced Backley a time of 1min 20.07sec, a mere nine seconds ahead of Markov. The bronze medsl went to Mexico's Bernardo Segura. The world champion Michels Didoni of Italy finished 33rd, more than six minutes behind Perez.

The tops of the skyscrapers were still obscured by mist as the first heats of the sprints began. The humidity was high but it was not excessively hot. Atlanta's own, the world champion Gwen Tor-rence, was greeted by an im-mense roar when she won her first heat in 11.11.

There were the inevitable early disappointments for the British, none more so than Shaun Pickering in the shot. The warm-up had gone tre-mendously well for Pickering; once in the stadium

qualifying was exceptionally Smith, who finished eighth in high with 14 athletes — an Olympic record — clearing do all her running from the

Steve Smith reached tomor-row's final but Dalton Grant, for the second successive Games, failed. "We had to be up by 5cm and only had a limited amount of warm-up time," said Smith, who completed a joyful backward som ersault after completing 2.28 at the second attempt.

Javier Sotomayor, the reigning Olympic champion, also cleared 2.28 at the second attempt but there were strictly no celebrations. The Cuban stayed down for several seconds after his jump and then limped painfully back to retrieve his tracksuit.

The Cuban suffered a foot injury in Gothenburg last year during the world cham pionships and eventually finished second, his first championship defeat since 1991, to

In the women's 400m first 100 per cent of my ability," round both Phylis Smith and said the Scot. "It won't be the everything went wrong. round both Phylis Smith and
The standard in high jump Donna Fraser qualified.

stuck out in lane eight it is like being a chased rabbit." Smith finished third in her heat in 51.29 and Fraser, also third, recorded 52.78. Liz McColgan will be mak-

ing an even earlier start tomorrow with the women's marathon beginning at 7am, barely after the sun has risen on this southern state. McColgan, winner of this year's London Marathon,

proved at the world champi-onships in Tokyo five years ago that she can cope with heat and humidity, winning the gold medal in the 10,000m. The stress here will be even more intense and the marathon course, to compound the problems of the climate, is far

This is the hardest event I quickest runner who wins here but the toughest. My body can handle a lot of stress, so I'm confident of

US in floods of tears

Gymnastics

Richard Williams

HE PRESIDENT turned up at the Georgia Dome on Thursday night but he was 48 hours too late to share in the joy and glory of America's tiny female gym-nasts. Having registered the nation's first triumph in the team event, they found their separate routes to failure in the individual all-around

championship.

For the first time since the champion also won the Olympic gold medal. Lilia Podko payeva of the Ukraine, 17 next month came through in her final floor exercise to defeat a trio of Romanians. The silver went to the 18-year-old Gina Gogean, while Simona Amanar and Lavinia Milosovici finished with a bronze apiece after their scores tied.

Podkopsyeva won the world all-around title in Sa-bae, Japan, in 1995 and added the European championship in Birmingham earlier this year. She scored a total of 39.255 in her four exercises, 0.180 ahead of Gogean, the 1994 European champion. Amanar was a replacement for Alexandra Marinescu; Milosovici had also taken the

bronze in Barcelona. Of the American heroines of Tuesday night's team event there was, by the end, practically no trace, despite Presi-dent Clinton's presence and although a firestorm of flashbulbs and thunderous cheers accompanied every effort by Dominique Moceanu, Shan-non Miller and Dominique Dawes. After a promising opening the crowd were to taste disappointment long before the end of the four rota-tions, in which the 32 athletes

- selected via the marks ob-

tained in the team event -



to complete a notable double

moved in groups of eight between the asymmetric bars. the balance beam, the vault and the floor exercise.

Moceanu, replacing the in-jured Kerri Strug, was the first US gymnast to appear in the opening rotation but a big wobble on the beam produced an unexceptional 9.600. A solid 9.750 on the bars for Miller preceded a 9.812 by Dawes on the same equipment which gave her second place after the first round. Third at that stage was Mo Huilan of China, with 9.799

from the vault. Podkopayeva was in sixth, with Miller eighth and Moceanu down in 17th place. Miller scored a 9.862 on the beam but it was not enough to take her above Dawes, whose 9.825 gave her the lead at the end of the second rotation. Miller shared second with Dina Kochetkova of Russia, after a 9.825 for an excellent beam exercise, with Mo fourth and

Podkopayeva up to fifth. A mark of 9.800 on the beam gave Mo the lead in the third rotation, while a chill fell over the hall as two sloppy landings produced a 9.475 on the floor for Miller, leaving her sobbing. A couple of min-utes later there was another American in tears after Dawes had fallen back on to her hands after a front somersault in the same exercise, an 9.000 from the floor judges. US hopes for an individual medal

Back on the floor Kochet-kova registered a 9.777 to move up to second. Behind her came Podkopayeva, with 9.787 on the beam. Gogean had also been making steady progress. Twelfth after her performance on the bars, she was sixth after the beam and fourth when the floor produced her second consecutive 9.800. Milosovici was now

disappeared with two unsteady landings in the vault, her final exercise, just before Podkopayeva went out and produced an immaculate floor routine, using every inch of the mat and pulling the high-est mark of the night, a thoroughly justified 9.887.

As the very last act of the competition, Mo came out to respond. Her first sequence ended with a solid landing, and a first gold for China in this event looked possible. Her second cost her everything. At the end of a front somersault, she leapt off the carpet and out of the medals. Respectable closing performances - 9.762 for Moceanu

on the asymmetrical bars,

9.687 for Dawes and 9.724 for Miller on the vault - pleas the crowd and ensured an improvement in their placings. Miller finished eighth, Moceanu ninth and Dawes 17th. "I don't have any regrets," Miller said. "I'm going home with a gold medal, so I don't think there's anything to be unhappy about." But for Dawes, who had narrowly missed medals at the past two world championships, it was particularly hard to take. "I guess I was able to deal with it then, so I can now," she said at the press conference, and burst into tears again.

World records in peril on 'Ferrari of tracks'

Duncan Mackay on the Atlanta Stadium running surface that was designed and installed with high performance in mind

looked a forlorn figure Las he left the Olympic Stadium here yesterday. The American knew that his two-year reign as the world 100-metre record holder was probably enter-ing its final few hours.

"Leroy's time of 9.85 seconds will be history by tomorrow," predicted Ato Boldon after winning his opening-round heat in "We will run 9.7sec or faster.

His confidence stems from running on a surface they are already calling the "Ferrari of tracks".

BURRELL | The stadium track has been built to the most speed-friendly specifica-tions ever and already has seen a glut of fast times, including Michael Johnson's world 200-metre record of 19.66sec during the US trials last month. The pre-vious record, 19.72sec, had been held by Italy's Pietro

thin air at Mexico City's 7,000-feet altitude — and was the oldest in the book.
"This track is like the difference between driving a Volkswagen and a Fer-rari," said John Smith, Bol-

IAAF's specifications. "There's never been a sur-face created like this," said Michael DiNatale, the sales manager for Mondo, the track's manufacturer. "The energy return on it is unbe-lievable. That's what makes it fast."

Baked in an oven in Italy, the vulcanised sheet-rubber surface was manufac-tured with the IAAF's rules in mind. "For a track to be legal, specifications require it to have a force reduction between 35 per cent and 55 per cent, with 35 per cent being the hardest," said Phil Henson, the athletics competition manager for the Olympics. "When they made it they set it up to be

The track is so firm that | the track with a hammer it | made in athletes' running it is barely within the | would absorb 35 per cent of | shoes. "You're dealing with IAAF's specifications. | the force." Now the two-layered sur-

legs stiff and sore. Smith attributed that to

movement on your touch-down. If that track gives that back to you and you are not prepared for it, your shoes won't allow you to do that and you're going to have some vibration. It's got to go somewhere. So it will go in your legs, your calfs, your hamstrings.

Olympic Games and the Atlanta paralympics the track will be moved to a nearby college to make way for the Atlanta Braves baseball

Thursday in Atlanta

Gymnastics

All-around fixed: 1, L. Podiopayova (Linr) 39.255pts: 2, G. Gogean (Rom), S= 5 Armana (Rom), L. Missovice (Rom); 39.957; 5, M. Hullan (Chma) 38,049; 6, D. Kochel-kova (Rus) 38,960; 7, R. Galiyava (Rus) 38,905; 8, S. Miller (US) 38,811

Badminton Men's singles Second round: Selected: J Ota (Swe) bt P Knowles (GB) 15-11, 15-9.

Hen's doubles First researt Selected: Chang Ge/Xiso-plang Tao (China) bi D Hali/P Knowles (GBI 15-2, 15-2: A Anthroper/N Zener (Rus) bi N Ponting/I Robertson (GBI 15-13, 7-15, 15-4; S Archer/C Most (GBI

Women's doubles First rounds Selected: E Coene/E van den Hauvel (Noth) bi K Morgan/J Mugger-inge (GB) 15-10, 15-5.

Baseball Nicaragua 5. Nethland 9, hely 12. Australi 8. US 15 Japan 5

Basketball Women's preliminaries Group & Russia 75, Italy 70; Brazil 100, Japan 80; Chine 61, Canada 49, Group Be US 107, Zetre 47; S Korea 72, Ukraine 67; Australia 75, Cuba 63.

Boxing Heavyweight (91kg) Cycling Men's Individual Pursuit Comment (its 4.22.775 bt 8 McGee (Aus) 4.28.121. McGee took bronze medal as fasteat semi-final tooler. Planat Collinelli 4.20.883 bt Erntenault 4.22.714

Courber-fittalist Curbs bi S Koroa 45-34; Russela bi Hungary 45-43. Postaned bi Ger-many 45-44; Austria bi In 45-36 Senti-fitalist Restate bi Cuba 45-44; Potaned bi Augiria 45-38. Gold produkt Russia bi Potand 45-40. Bronnes Cuba bi Austria 45-28

Churcher-finales Italy by China 45-24 Manuary of France 45-25 Receiving the Fusqua 45-41, Germanny to Polana 45-35 Sound-finales Romania by Germany 45-35 State in Hungary 45-42, Gold medial Italy of Rangaritz 45-33. Bronness Germanny 2

Handball Men's prollminaries Group & Kuwan 22, Croaha 31: Switzer-land 19, Sweden 26: Pusaia 31, US 10. Group & Algeria 22, France 33: Spain 22, Germany 20: Egypt 31, Brazil 20

Hockey Men's preliminary round Carosep Br. S Korea 3, S Africa 3; Malaysia 2 Great Britain 2, Nethland 3, Australia 2 Women's round-robin stage Britain 2, Spoin 2, Nethland 4, Germany 3, Australia 3, South Korea 3; Argentina 2, US 1.

Judo Men's half-lightweight (65kg)

Heat 1 (Top 3 to Hnal): 1, X Mueller (Switz) 7.10.07; 2, D Forter (Can) 7,14.31; 3, F Bekken (Nor) 7,18.82, Alsos 6, P Haining (GS) 7.30 47, Heat 2s: 1, T Lange (Ger) 7,12.30; 2, I Cop (Stevaniz) 7,15.07; 3, Y Chaleps (Cz) 7,16.97. Nomen's coxless pairs

Secul-ficals (top Burse to final); Heart 1: 1. US 7min 29.3/19sc. 2. Australia 7:32-47: 3. Russu 7: 96-27. Heart 2: 1, France 7:30-21: 2. Canada 7:32:02: 3. Germany 7:34-80. Alsos 6 Great Briton (K Mackenzie/P Cross) 7: 99-57. Women's half-lightereight (52kg) Semi-finals (top 3 to linal)* Next 1: 1. Canada 7 11.21, 2 New Zestand 7 15.57, 3 Australia 7 15.55, Next 2: 1 China 7 15.47;

35," he explained. "In other words, if you were to hit | ahead of the advancements tant (Arg): L Verdeele (Cubs) bt R Supawara (Japun), Semi-Rosiss Restess: 7.1 Di Krause: Byan Sock-hes of Verdeels. 7 Gold sedale Restesor bi Hyun Sock-hes. Brustese Regimens bi Krause: Verdeele I Munoz. 2, Netherlands 7.18.38, 3, Germany 7.1962; 4, Norway 7.26.24; 5, Ultrains 7.2653; 6, Latvia 7:32.95.

Soccer

Rowing

Men's preliminaries

Man's coxless pairs

Men's double sculls

Men's coxiess fours

Mon's single scuils

Women's double sculls

Group C: (Laly 2. 5 Kores 1; Ghans Mexico 1. Group D: Brazol 1. Nigeria Japanan 3. Hungary 2.

Group Et Sweden 3, Denmark 1: US C China D. Group Ft Brazil 1, Germany 1 Norway 4, Jepanen 6.

Jamin's Courses pairs

Semi-finator Heat 5: 1, Australia Smin
46.43sec. 2. France 6.48.15; 3. Cruata
6.55.80; 4. Austria 6.57.44; 5. Lithuania
6.57.75; 4. Seligatin 7.05 12. Meat 2: 1.

Grazt Britain 15 Redgrave/M Pinsenti
6.50.30; 2. New Zealand 6.51.54; 3. It
6.52.32; 4. US 6.52.82; 5. Belgium 6.55.54,
8, Argenton 7 14.35.

Semi-Sapia (tirst three to final): Heat 1: 1, is 6.37.49; 2, Norway 6.40.15, 9, Germany 6.42.57, Heat 2: 1, France 6.32.86; 2, Aus-tria 6.35.76; 3, Denmark 6.37.10.

Semi-finals (first Birse to final): Heat 1x 1. France 6.09.59; 2. It 6.09.62: 3. Australia 6.09.55. Heat 2x 1. Britain (J. Seariard Scarlerk Coblection 7 Fosler): 5.10.79; 2. Romania 6.11 84: 3. Storema 6.13.14.

Women's preliminaries

face measures 35.6 per cent, compared to 86 per cent for the 1992 Olympic track in Barcelona. "So it's per-fectly legal, but it's right at that limit," added Renson.

As athletes adjust they are discovering they can run faster, but injuries have also increased. Most of the 100-metre finalists in the men's US trials, including eight-time Olympic gold medallist Carl Lewis, suffered cramp during or after the race and there were several complaints from distance runners who said that the pounding left their

the the track surface being

Women's single sculls

Men's 50m free rifle

Shooting

Swimming

(GB) 22.73

Men's 200m

individual medicy

Penalt 7, A Coons (Hum) Irolin 58,91360; 2, J Seetings (Fm) 2,00,13, 3, C Mydan (Carl) 2,01,13; 4, M Woods (Hem) 2,01,45; 5, M Duns (Aust 2,01,57; 6, G Burgers (US) 2,02,56; 7, 7 Dolan (US) 2,03 sb; 8, X Marchand (Fr) 2,04,25.

Selectod: Mest 3: 1, G Smith (GB) 15min (4.818ec.

Women's 200m backstroke

iten's 1,500m treestyle

Men's 50m freestyle

Heat 1 (top 3 to lineth: . S. Laumann (Can) 7.57.86: 2, Y. Khodotovkoh (Belaras) 8.09.92 3. M. Brandin (Swe) 8.01 55. Heat 2: 1, T Hansen (Den) 7.53.45; 2, R Davidee (US) 7.54.97; 3, G Bahan (GB) 7.56.51.

Men's 5Om free riffe
Fisal: 1. C Klees (Gor) 704 8; 2. S Poliny
(Ka2) 703.5; 2. J Gonzi (Slovak) 701.9; 4. J
Gonzalez (Sp) 701.7; 5. M Mach (G2) 700.9;
8. S Martynov (Bota) 898.6; 7. L Eun-Chul
(S Kor) 999.7; 8. B Meek (US) 589 9
Men's 1 Orn) running turget
Caudityles (eight to final). 1. D Lykine
(Flue) 2996; 2. K Neimmberg (Final) 294; 3.
Y Ling (Chura) 294; 4. J Silks (Hun) 295; 3.
M Janus (C2) 292; 6. Y Rodnov (Ka2) 290;
7. J Zymmermann (Ger) 290; 8, Xiao Jun
(China) 293.

Men's 25m rapid fire pistol

"The runners need a shoe that can move off the track without their foot spreading. A shoe that responds to the track." But manufacturers will need to hurry to find Smith's solution. After the

team's new pitch.

Women's 800m freestyle

fraestyle relay

(Ger) 2.12.05; 4. A Schleinz (Ger) 2.12.90; 5. M Nakap (Japan) 2.13.57; 5. A Simcic (MČ) 2.14 bc; 7. L Vigurani (il) 2.14 50; 8. N Zhvanovskatya (Rus) 2.14 59. (single-handed dinghy)

Pleast 1. 8 Bennott (US) Smis 27 89sec. 2. D Hase (Gor) 8.29.91; 3, K Vhoghuly (Hedh) 550.84; 4, K Keigane, (Gor) 8.31.96; 5. I Dalby (Nor) 8.38.34; 6, J Evahs (US) 8.38.91; 7, C 1. Searts (Noth) 8.40.43; 8. S Hardenstle (GB) 8.41.76. Man's star (two-person keelboat) Women's 4x200m

Plands 1, US 7min 29 873ec; 2, German 6,01.55; 3, Australia 8 65.47, 4, Japana 8 07.48; 5, Canada 8.08 18; 6, Mathian 8 08.48, 7, Romania 8,10.62; 8, Chin: 8,15.28. Laser (dinghy)
Leading standings after six recest 1. R
Scheldt (Brazi 15.00; 2. B Ainella (GB)
15.00, 3. S Varhalia (Ge) 23.00; 4. P Moberg (Nor) 27.00; 5. J Harrysson (Swo)
29.00; 8. V Seepa (Por) 33.00; 7. S Lange
(Arg) 35.00; 8. M Lytic fire) 42.00. **Table Tennis** Men's singles round-robin Selected: A Mistenson (Rus) bt C Pres (GB) 21-19, 18-21, 21-15.

Women's singles round-robin Women's doubles round-robin Selected: A MeSit/L Lames: (GB) bt B R Olate/6 T Cancins (Chile) 21–18 21–19

Final: 1, R Schumann (Ger) 686 0; 2 E Miley (Bul) 692 1; 3. V Yokinnyanni (Kaz) 681.5 4, K Kuchanzayk (Polt 890.5; 5. Gang 897.1; 8 G Lisoconi (Moldova) 687 0; 7. L Painkas (Hun) 685 9; 8, U Leonhard (Ger) 683 8. Volleybəll Men's proliminaries Healt 1, A Popov (Rus) 22 (1890: 2. G dr Hell (US) 22.26; 3. P Scherer (Braz) 22.29, 4. Chengli Jiang (China) 22.33; 5. B Dede-tind (SA) 22.56; 6. D For (US) 22.56; 7. F Sanchez (Ven) 22.72; 8. R Besquets (P Rico) 22.73; 26d seet quality: M Festier (RICO) 22.73; 26d seet quality: M Festier (RICO) 22.73; 26d seet quality: M Festier (RICO) 22.73; 26d seet quality: M **Group &** Argentina 3, Bulgaria 1; Brazil 3, Poland O' Cubu 3, US 2, **Group B**, Italy 3, Nethand Q' Yugoslavia 3, Tunisia 1; Rus-sus 3, 8 Korse 0.

Yachting Men's 470 Leacing standings after two races: 1. Utraine 4.00, 2, it 13.00; 3, Sweden 13.00; 4, Portugui 15.00; 5, Great Britain µ Mercaks: 1 Walker; 16.00; 6, Spain 16.00, 7, Creatia 18.00, 8, New Zealand 19.00; 9, France 22.00, 10, Estenia 23.00; Men's mistral

(board salling) Content of Sprantings after the passes 1, N Kaldamarskis (Gro) 9,00: 2, C Espinola (Arg. 11.60, 3, G Fridman (Isr. 15.00, 4, M Golbhard), 183 (200: 5, 4 Member), 182: 23.00, 6 J-M De Chavegny (Fr), 23.00, Alses Finals 1. K Egerszeg: (Hunt 2min 07 83ac. 2 W Hodgapeth (US) 2.11 98 3 G Rund 29. H Plumb (GB) 96.00

Leading standings after the recess 1, C Bergmann (Bra) 17,00; 2, F Loof (Swe) 18 00; 3, H Spitzauer (Aut) 22 00; 4, M Kistralerevitz (Pol) 27,00; 5, S Godetroid: 19 th 27 00; 6, C Mont, (NJ) 28,00. Alles 15, 9 th 10,00; (NJ) 28,00. Alles 15,

Leading standings after five radez: 1. Brazil 10.00; 2. Australia 11.00; 1. US 15.00; 4. It 15.00; 5. Sweden 20.00; 6. Groops 23.00; 7. Denmark 26.00; Alice 12. Great Britain (G Charles: G Standar) 42.00; 15 Ireland (D Burrows: M Manafeld) 59.00

Women's 470 (double-handed dinghy) Cognitive standings after two recent 1. Uraino 6.00cts; 2. Spain 6.00, 3. Denmark 9.00; 4. US 10.00; 5. Juperain 10.00; 6. In 50.7. Australia 16.00; 5. Great Britain (S. Corr.: B Regallo 17.00; 9. Ireland (J. Cole. D Lyttle) 20.00; 10. Germiny 22.00.

Women's Europe (single-handed dinghy) Leading standings where five venest 1, it Roug (Den) 6 00: 2, G Bechet-Doy (US) 14.00; 3, M Mathijsse (Neth) 15.07, 4, 8 Pollerkon (SB) 17.00; S. P Powerzynski (Ger) 24.00; K. A Bowman (Iro) 27.00. Women's mistral

Leading standings after five record: 1. Lai Shan Lee (HIC 9.00; 2. B Kendall (NZ) 12.00; 3. A Sensial (II) 16.00; 4. M Herbert (F) 16.00; 5. J Horgen (Nor) 18.00; 6. Ke Li (China) 20.00. Tennis

Second round: L. Passe (India) bt N Persitre (Van) 6-2. 8-3; is Rounds (Switz) bt F Festierten (Dan) 7-6; 7-6; RF Festierten (III) bt N Richova (Iovaita (Switz) 5-5 Sargana (Arm) 4-6; 7-6; 8-4; W Festierten (III) bt N B Black (Zimb) 6-2; 7-6; 8 Agendand (II) bt O (Vit (Marx) 6-1, 7-6; 8 Agendand (II) bt O (Vit (Marx) 6-1, 7-6; 8 Agendand (III) bt O (Vit (Marx) 6-1, 7-6; 8 Agendand (III) bt O (Vit (Marx) 6-1, 7-6; 8 Agendand (IVS) bt N Kucara (Slovabla) 6-4.

STORMEN'S SUBJECT
Second Fuench III Selec (LS) hi P Boulars
(Can) 6-3. 8-2. A Budgigment (Lapan) bi M
Hingis (Seitz) 6-4. 6-4. B Schmitz-MicCarthy (Neth) bi Y Young-le Choi IS Kor) 6-2.
8-4. 3-6. 7-2. G Salesthid (Argi bi A Gavandon (Mex) 6-4. 6-0. A Vicario (Sp) bi S
Farina (III 8-1. 6-2. B Malesten (Bull) bi F
Labal (Argi 7-5. 6-1. K Date (Lapan) bi V
Csurgo (Hun) 8-2. 6-2.

MEZDALS TABLE

Gernany Cupa South Korea Australia

CB (m), Molland v Kores (m).

Rowsings Finals.
Shootings Men's sixest prelims and final men's formation of the prelimina and final men's 50 m 3x40 ritle prelimins and final men's 50 m 3x40 ritle prelimins and final.

Ballings Men's boards, 470, Tornado and Star.

Softballs Australia v Canada (w), Holland v Puerto Rico (w), US v Chera (w), Holland v Puerto Rico (w), US v Chera (w), Holland v Puerto Rico (w), US v Chera (w), Holland v Puerto Rico (w), US v Chera (w), Holland v Puerto Rico (w), US v Chera (w), Holland v Puerto Rico (w), US v Chera (w), Holland v Puerto Rico (w), US v Chera (w), Holland v Puerto Rico (w), Lisa v Chera (w), Holland v Rico (w), Holland (w), Argentine, women's doubles only singles and doubles prelime.

Yolland (m), Argentina v Cube (m), But-V Holland (m), Argentina v Cube (m), Rorse v Valley (m), Rorse

Today in Atlanta

A Atlanta

State of the last

ple jump final, women's heplathion, men's re-ple jump final, women's 100m semi-final and final mon's 100m semi-final and final, men's 400m round 2, women's lavelin final, women's 800m semi-dinal, women a 10,000m round 1, women's 400m round 2, men's harmer qualitying semi-sharmer qualitying Besphafi, kannan all, kann Bedrifestore Ouerter-Inak,
Bescheffe Japan v Nicaragua (ro), Augtralia v US (m., fisty v Cuba (m),
Beskethalit Zaire v Korea (m), Ukraine v
Guba (m), Japan v II (m), Chine v Brazil
(m), Australia v US (m), Russia v Canada
(m)

wij. Classis v Canada (wij. Classis v Canada (wij. Canada (wij.) Canada Divings Women's Platform semi-final and

September Seritors, (encourage), real (m), sape pretime, Seritors and v Russian Federation (m), Germany v Egypt (m), Crostic v US (m), France v Brazil (m), Vorseil v VS (m), series v Koras (w), Holland v France v Brazis (m).

Mockey: Spain v Korea (w), Holland v Argentna (w), Mateyala v Australia, SA v GB (m), Molland v Korea (m).

Mater poles Men's team semi-tinule.

Resignationings 91kg group A and B finals.



OLYMPIC GAMES



Family pack... Redgrave's daughter Sophie, held by his wife Ann, joins his mother, right, in loud encouragement during Thursday's semi-finals PHOTOGRAPHS: MICHAEL STEELE

Mum's the word for Redgrave

christopher Dodd
on the parent power
driving Britain's

and friends who make up the
British Rowing International
Supporters Club, a vocal flagwaving band who have
among their number the Rev
Ewen Pinsent (retired), his rowing machine

FEEL dreadful. We get very uptight. I can't do anything but stop on the finishing line. I can't go to the start. I've never followed a race, never, I have to be there for that last bit of encouragement. I shout "Once I can remember we

missed the first race. The first thing Steve said was. You weren't there, were you? I didn't hear you shouting.' Usually he's completely oblivious to what's happening round him."

Shella Redgrave will be as near as she can get to the fin-ish at Lake Lenier tomorrow,

giant, now aged 34, has won three Commonwealth and six world golds, 15 Heoley medals

and three Olympic golds.

If he and Matthew Pinsent,
25, strike gold again in Atlanta, Sheila's only son will
be the athlete of the century.

Nobody has yet won four gold
medals in consecutive Games
of an endurance street. try an endurance event.

Redgrave, the youngest of three children, suffers from dyslexia but is succoured by tunnel vision. "His school crew won seven regăttas in their first year. He was very definite from then onwards," says his mother. "He wanted to be the best Olympian there ever was and he wanted to be

it in a single scull. From a very early age." Redgrave's determination began a family business. His wife Ann is the British rowing team's doctor and mother of Natalie and Sophie, goddaughters of Redgrave's partner since 1990, the Old Eton-ian helicopter pilot Pinsent. Then there is his father Geoff, a former builder who drives a camper van all over

wife Jean, daughter Cather-ine and his nephew. The Redgrave story has run

to plan in every respect save one. It is with partners, not solo, that Steve has notched up his achievements. His mother had all their measure. With Adam Clift he won a junior silver medal in 1980 which should have been gold:
"He was a great character.
They were quite good. But Adam didn't really come through the winter. Steven al-ways felt strongly about win-

ways felt strongly about win-ter training."

Andy Holmes featured in the Olympic golds of 1984 and 1968: "They were two very, very different people, and they gelled together in a bost, didn't they? They were fan-tedic. When they steward out ish at Lake Lanlar tomorrow, just as she was for her son's didn't they? They were far-first race last Sunday and the samt-final on Thursday.

She has been Steve's No. 1 supporter since the day as a 14-year-old he was invited to try rowing by Francis Smith, this teacher at Great Marlow up. I always got along well school. Since then the gentle with him. You had to drag giant, now assed 34, has won. him along in conversation. He didn't mix with the other rowers either.

"Andy was very money mo-tivated. He wanted to get fi-nancial return for a year. He had a family to support. With Steven it was never money, it was achievement. But he always had us behind him."

Simon Beresford's term was short-lived because he injured his back: "Simon was nice emough but very boast-ful. I didn't see that partner-ship going well from the be-ginning. Staven isn't boastful. He never really thinks about a race until it's won." Then came Pinsent. "I don't

know what the difference would be between Andy and Matthew, Maithew's got age on his side now. Lovely boy, he really is a nice lad, very kind, very good."

The big competitions are an endurance test for both mother and son. "I live it every day," Sheila says. There's not much enjoyment until it's all over."

They also provide a chance for reflection. "I'm quite sure Europe to deliver Sheila to he would have made a world champion sculler but I think home near Alicante in Spain.

Sheila acts as a rallying point for the army of parents done too bad, do you?"



The world's eves on the history man

Rowing

Christopher Dodd

LYMPIC history when be made today when Redgrave and Pinsent cross the line at Lake Lanier They are unbeaten since they took gold in the coxless pairs in Barcelona four years ago, and victory here will give Redgrave his fourth gold in

four consecutive Games. Their strongest opponents are in an adjacent lane: David Weightman and Robert Scott of Australia, the only crew they have not competed against in a 58-race winning run. France's Michel An-drieux and Jean-Christophe Rolland are also a threat.

milestone was in 1994 when they twice went under emin 20sec for 2,000 metres and set

the world record of 6.18.27.
"Those were outstanding times," said Gröbler. "To do it twice proves they have the capability, technique, skills and fitness. Times are based on conditions and they are faster now. Even an older attached the control of the capability of the conditions and they are faster now. Even an older attached to the capability of the capability lete like Redgrave [34] improves his performance."

The four of Rupert Ob-holzer, Tim Foster and the 1992 Olympic coxed pairs champions Joney and Greg. Searle have been overshadowed by the razzmatazz surrounding the pair. But this crew are poised to unset the world champions Italy and the Olympic champions Australia.

Jurgen Gröbler, the Brit | Third in the world in 1994 | weight double scullers Nick one coach, believes their | and second last year, they are | Strange and Andy Sinton a tightly knit group who have spent years ducking and div-ing in and out of crews, starting their medal winning as ju-niors. Their laid-back good nature on the bank is matched by a disciplina of

Women's 200m butterfly

Volleyball

Men's singles

Tennis

Candificta for fitnets S O'Neill (Aus) 2min 9.48eac; M Sreith (Ira) 2.10.03; P Triomas (Aus) 2.10.64; Vus. Qu. (Chisa) 2.11.35; J Deglau (Can) 2.12.67; M Harriera (Japan) 2.12.69; T Jackson (US) 2.12.69; L Lis (China) 2.18.12.

failed to finish among the first three in semi-finals. Strange and Sinton were on terms to 500 metres but slipped off the pace by half-way. The Italians Audisio and Crispi, Lucerne winners in June, also lost out.

perfection in sverything they do on the water. There could be a thrill a la Barcelona just over an hour after Redgrave and Pinsent race.

Guin Batten also has a final today in the single sculls in which Canada's Silken Laumann is the favourits. A medal is unlikely but, as every athlete here says: "It's the Olympics. Anything can happen."

Britain's remaining chances of final places evaporated yesterday when the

rated yesterday when the After their unlucky season he lightweight four and light and Bob Thatcher rank 17th.

Relay mistake the latest blow

Swimming

David Hopps

ARAH HARDCASTLE, who came out of retirement four years ago "for a bit of a laugh", re-entered it in tears yesterday as Britain's swimmers were accused of them in their nation.

swimmers were accused of shaming their nation.
At least there was no shame in the exit of the men's 4x100m medley relay team.
Neil Willey (backstroke), Richard Maden (breaststroke), James Hickman (butterfly) and Nick Shackell (freestyle) clocked a British (freestyle) clocked a British record time of 3min 40.74sec, second fastest to the Ameri-cans, only to be disqualified because Shackell's takeover from Hickman was fractionally early.

"We're very disappointed,"
said Hickman. "Even if the
change-over had been right
we would still have broken
the record and stood a very good chance in the final."

"It is not as if we don't care. Every member of this team has come out and done their best," said Hardcastle after the 800m freestyle, in which she became the first British woman to reach an Olympic swimming final since 1984, her silver and bronze year in

Paul Palmer's silver four years on, plus the hopes car-ried by Graeme Smith in the 1500m freestyle final.

Britain's swimmers per-formed largely to expecta-tions, which had not been the case in Barcelona, in produc-

case in Barcelona, in producing our only medal thus far.
There were notable failures: Karen Pickering's two freestyle swims, backstroke specialists Martin Harris, Adam Ruckwood and Willey (young enough to recover from the experience) and Mark Foster in the 50m freestyle.

Mark Foster in the 50m freestyle.

Gillingham and Hardcastle, the two veterans, achieved all they could realistically expect. Palmer performed creditably in his freestyle finals and the 20-year-old Hickman, who qualified as third fastest in the 200m butterfly only to blow up in the final, set British records over 100m and ish records over 100m and 200m and could figure promi-

nently in Sydney 2000. The Americans, led by their women, entered the last night of finals with 10 of the 22 golds. Australia at that stage were still awaiting their first gold and China's tally of only five medals represented a rout — and a hopeful indication that more stringent drug-

British swimmers now have a chance to compete on Los Angeles. "I thought I'd be equal terms. Whether they can win on these terms decome last in the final and now I'm in tears."

For Nick Gillingham's the infra-structure they need

Ainslie in with a golden shot as German suffers starting trouble

Sailing

Bob Fisher

ASECOND place in the Lesers puts Ben Amalia on top of the overall standings on top of the overall standings after seven of the scheduled 11 races. He moved four points clear of Brazil's Robert Scheift, the world champion, who finished seventh.

Just as importantly, Stefan Warkalla of Germany, who was third overall, had a bad race after being recalled at the start. His misfortune increases the buffer between

Andy Beadsworth, Barry Parkin and Adrian Stead clawed their way back finishing third. through the fleet to finish seventh in the morning race of the Soling class. They had been forced to restart after crossing the start line too soon, but fought back gamely

and remain third. It was a stirring performance by the British team, Netherlands.

who gained their final place right on the finishing line, passing the Dutch boat when Willem Potma failed to harden up after rounding the stern of the committee boat. Beads-worth stuck the bow of his boat in the gap and put the helm down, crossing the line a foot shead.

Racing started an hour earlier in an effort to miss the thunderstorms which put paid to racing on most of the four courses in the sharmoon. Elements permitting, two races for the men's and women's 470s were scheduled to take place after the Lasers the start. His misfortune in creases the buffer between Ainslie and the rest of the fleet.

Skoudes had a good result, seventh, in the Star class where Australia's Colin E shel is back in the lead after

> Shirley Robertson fall from grace in the Europe dingbies with an uncharacteristic 22nd, a result which she will have to discard from her scormedal. The race was won by Margriet Matthijsee of the

Boardman lifts McGregor into pursuit semi-finals

Cycling

William Fotheringham

YVONNE McGREGOR's quest to become the first British woman to take a cycling medal progressed yesterday when she earned a place in the semi-finals of the women's 3,000m pursuit, beating New Zealand's Sarah Ulmer by 41/2 seconds.

The Yorkshirewoman was boosted by the presence of one of her mentors, the Barce lona men's gold medalist Chris Boardman, and was never in trouble despite heat of 90F and 80 per cent humidity. After making her customary slow start, she was a second behind after two laps,

but made up the lost ground steadily to go ahead after one third of the distance. However, today McGregor is due to come up against the Italian Antonella Bellutti,

who has been consistently the fastest throughout this series, and is the current world record holder. Riding in the stretched out "superman" position which Graeme Obree pioneered last

year, Bellutti is set to emulate her compatriot Andrea Colinelli who took gold in the men's event on Thursday. Yesterday she disposed of the former Olympic road

champion Kathryn Watt of Australia in impressive style, steaming inexorably past her Earlier in the day the Brit-ish men's 4000m pursuit team

squad failed to qualify, recording a time far slower

Britain face crucial test

Pat Rowley

stand a realistic chance of reaching the semi-finals. On Thursday Britain

ager David Whittle. "If we beat South Africa, victory

Best of the rest

Tennis Greg Rusedski gave a demon-

stration of serving power to move into the third round when he beat Sweden's Magnus Gustafsson in three sets. The 22-year-old British No. 2 sent down 19 aces in his 6-7, 7-6, 7-3 victory. The Australian Todd Wood-bridge, who had defeated Brit-

ain's No. 1 Tim Henman, was arrested and fined the equivalent of £60 after an argument with a female security guard near the athletes' village. Australian officials are to lodge a protest.

Table Tennis

Chen Xinhua overcame jet-lag after a traumatic 40-hour journey from China to beat But Britain's task should have been made easier by collecting both points off Malaysia. They thought they had sia. They thought they had a chance in the final minute when Calum Giles stepped up to take a penalty corner. But but faces a difficult task blatant time-wasting denied against Belarus's Vladimir him the chance to take it.

Yesterday in Atlanta

Athletics

COLLEGE SE ALLE

Men's 20km walk

Ment's 20km; walk.

Finals 1, 1 Perez (Etu) Ihr 20min West; 2, 1 Markov (Rus) 1:20.16; 3, 8 Segura (Max) 1:20.23; 4, N A'narn (Aus) 1:20.21; 5, R Shallov (Rus) 1:20.47; 7, M Shchemiltov (Rus) 1:20.69; 5, R Korzeniowski (Pol) 1:21.18; 9, Y Misyuya (Bel) 1:21.18; 10, 1 Touthin (Fr) 1:21.85; 11, D Plaza (Sp) 1:22.05; 12, M Kinnelnite My (Beln) 1:22.17; 13, S Urbanik (Fun) 1:22.18; 14, D Langelos (Fr) 1:22.05; 13, N Louis (Ger) 1:22.27; 16, 8 Perricall (Italy) 1:23.47; 17, V Sorisov (Kazak) 1:23.47; 18, R lihy (Ger) 1:23.47; 19, D Garcia (Max) 1:24.16; 21, Guothol V (China) 1:24.30; 22, D Resthima (Augun) 1:24.54; 23, D Kinnel (Ken) 1:25.30; 24, A Em (Ger) 1:22.42; 23, B J Kinnel (Ken) 1:25.25; 24, A Em (Ger) 1:23.62; 23, D Kinnel (Ken) 1:25.25; 24, D Kinnel (Italy) 1:24.25; 23, D Kinnel (Italy) 1:24.25; 23, D Kinnel (Italy) 24, 25, 25, 31, MoDorald (Fre) 1:22.42; 24, MoDorald (Fre) 1:22.42; 25, Ment's schoot*past* Men's shot put

(Ber) 1322-24.

Menn's athor' park

Quasitying group fr 1, O Buder (Ger)
20.437; 2, R Barnas (LS) 20.42; 3, R Viras20.437; 2, R Barnas (LS) 20.42; 3, R Viras20.437; 2, R Barnas (LS) 20.42; 3, R Viras20.437; 2, L Peric (Yup) 18.75; 5, C
D Goncharuk (Belarus) 19.67; 6, C Fantini
(N 18.47; 7, M Martinez (Sp) 18.12; 8, M
Merhans (Ger) 18.07; 9, L Larsson (Sew)
18.05; 10, A Harlu (Fin) 18.01; 17, G Vantani
(N 18.98; 12, E Louca (Cyp) 18.48; 13, C
Lignu (Ng) 18.38; 14, A Shidiovakhy (Rus)
18.37; Gausitying group 2: 1, P dai Soglio
(N 20.58; 2, J Godini (LS) 20.54; 3, O
Bargach (Ulr) 20.22; 4, C Humber (US) 19.85;
(Oatm) 18.38; 7, D Lirban (Dar) 19.92; 8, M
Fishwal (Fin) 19.37; 8, Y Paichikov (Rus)
18.96; 10, M Manc (C2) 18.69; 11, G Weil
(Chile) 18.57; 72, Y Medicine (Ven) 18.53; 13,
(Chile) 18.57; 14, M Louca (Cyp)
18.20; 16, Mannay highs jamusp

Rean's high jumps
Genelitying group 11. C. Austin (US) 2.28;
Z. S. Hosn (Nor) 2.28; S., T. Karnp (Bath), J.
Z. S. Hosn (Nor) 2.28; S., T. Karnp (Bath), J.
Kouwicz (Pol), L. Pagsalcontas (Gru) 2.28; 6,
Jin-Taek Lee (S. Kor) 2.28; 7, S. Smith (GB)
2.28; 8, T. Janisu (Gz.); P. Padsiuwicz (Pol)
2.28; 10, C. Lafrannols (Gar) 2.26; 11, M.
Mandy (Inc) 2.20; 12, J. Luclano (Dom Rep.)
2.20; 13, G. Wright (US) 2.20; 14., C. Anderson (Aus), T. Kornura, S. Zozis (Trogo) 2.15;
Groups Za 1:; T. Fornyth (Aus), A. Perfyla
(Pol), D. Topic (Tugo) 2.28;; 4, J. Sozonavor (Cuba) 2.25; 5, W. Kreisnig (Gar)
nayor (Cuba) 2.25; 5, W. Kreisnig (Gar)
nayor (Cuba) 2.25; 5, W. Kreisnig (Gar)
2.25; 8, V. Tyrtehnik (Usr) 2.28; 7, K. Ma2.28; 11, G. Mayo (Col) 2.26; 12, M. Turban
(Ed) 2.24; 13, K. Nalko (Manif) 2.20; 14, Kum
Zae Loo (Rea) 2.15;

TagedrainTOP**

Tibed rounds 3 Superisates (Indo) bt J Cisson (Swe) 15-11, 15-12; Roop Deeps (Chira) bt T Stuer-Luridson (Don) 15-6, (Chira) bt T Stuer-Luridson (Don) 15-6, 15-5, 15-6; Park Sump-moo (S Kor) bt F Yan (Chira); F Ballanger (Fr) bt E Salo-

Machida (Japan) 16-5, 16-6; Jan Sta (China) bt A Kustuma (Indo) 16-6, 16-6,

Women's singles

Second round Y Sentesso (Indo) bt A Sondergaard (Dan) 11-1, 11-3; Y Minal (Japan) bt S Whomo (Switz) 11-4, 11-5; S. See Hyan Sang (S Kor) bt C Olorumola (Ng) 11-0, 11-0, 5, Yar Yao (China) bt M Yakasheya (Rus) 17-4, 11-4; E Martin (Dan) bt R Robertson (NC) 11-2, 11-2; S Sentesson (Indo) bt D Picze (Can) 11-1, 11-2; Kinang Chin-Chi (Tai) bt D Julien (Can) 9-11, 11-6, 11-1; Kinang Chin-Chi (Tai) bt D Julien (Can) 9-11, 11-6, 11-1; Kinang Chin-Chi (Tai) bt Chian Chia Fong (Mai) 11-4, 11-1; Kinangeuska (Pol) bt P Laleshau (India) 15-5, 15-5; Minor (Sun) bt S Janoansin (This) 11-5, 7-11, 11-5; Minor (Japan) bt E Rybothica (Rus) 11-1, 11-2; Kina Jingsan (S Kor) bt S Dimbour (Fr) 11-3, 11-5.

Men's preliminary round Group As Librantis SS, Angols 49, Gard B. Australia 101, Puerto Rico SS. Seach Volleyball Mert's semi-final B. Doddylif Waltemanus (US) bt J. N guezzi Galan (Sp.) 15-6. Women's semi-finals

Reno (US) 15-10; III Mod Special Reno (Braz) bt S Fu[he/Y Takshashi (Jap) 15-5 Boxing

Light-Tywelght (48 kg)
Second perion: D Region (But) bt N Mun
chyan (Arm) pts; S Kasseing (Thei) bt S
Bornel (Rom) pts. Handball Women's prelimitary

Group & Hungary 29, China 19. Pool B. Norway 30, Angola 18. Cycling Men's team pursuit

| Migra"s backers pourses | Committee | 1. France 4min 0.0570sec; 2. France 4min 0.0570sec; 2. Insly 4.02.690; 3. Australia 4.02.750; 4. Ukraine 4.11.540; 5. Fruesia 4.11.550; 6. US 4.11.550; 7. Spain 4.12.760; 5. New Zesiawd 4.16.900; 9. Germany 4.15.140; 10. Britain 4.16.171; 11. Ukhusnia 4.16.050; 12. Holtand 4.16.172; 13. Denement 4.16.000; 14. Argentine 4.20.800; 17. Colombia 4.28.210; 16. Chille 4.25.950; 17. Colombia 4.28.400. George-Fernales Massalia (4.05.850); bit Ukraine 4.12.701; Sanstralia (4.05.850); bit 15: 14.19.4701; Sanstralia (4.10.800); bit 1500; bit China Sandraman Massach (4.04.785) bi Ukraine (4.12.795) Americain (4.06.850) bi Ukraine (4.12.795) Spain (4.11.510) bi Itah (4.02.215): France (4.08.855) bi New Zee-tand (4.15.810). Mann's spring profilm

O Richmond (Aus) bt F Magne (Fr): C Hornett (Car) bt J Morento (Sp); Si Notheriale.
(US) bt R Chiappa (It. J Floelier (Gar) bt P Berzins (Jai): F Monences (Fr) bt E Polotty (Gar): D Will (Aus) bt P Suran (Czeh). Respectages Shown ot Bursh and Berzins; Polotrony bt Chiappa and

Hockey

Men's preliminaries Judo Men's extra lightweight

(60 kg)

(48 kg) bt H Wolf (US); E Temera (Japan) bt G Toriars (ti). Pool its Sun Kye (N Kor) bt S Michio (Fr. Y Soler (Sp) bt M Rosz-hovetes (Pol).

Mon's lightweight

Committees for finals First recess 1, tally 5.67, 10; 2, Australia 5.58,41; 3, Switzerland 5.59,63, Second recess 1, Comments 5.55,10; E 165 1.58,67; 3, Sweden 8,0018. corders fours Counters for Seals Pirst resect, Der-mark 6,18.21; 2. Australia 5,15.47; 3, Ira-land 6,15.60, Second resect, U.S. 5,08.69; 2, Cenada 6,10.38; 3, Germany 5,12.73. Did sect quality 5, Great Britain (D Lemon, J McNives, T Kay and B Helm) 8,19.07. Women's Sightweight

Shooting

Women's 25m sport platel . M Grozdera (Bull, P Jung-hee (BKorea) both 574.0; 25=, L Calighan (US), B Stizzoll (R), A Voelber (Berl, A Woodward CAus) all 573.0; 27=, P Jirtaalova (Cx), N Uchadze (Geo) 572.0; 29, L Guado (Arg) 585.0; 30-, G Belleava (Kaz), C Page (GE), M Suppo (N) all 567.0; 33, G Gallo (Arg) 585.0; 34, 6 Merschold (Den) 584.3. Softball

anada 2, US 4; Puerto Rico 1, Ja less's 200m backstroks B Gridgester (miles)

2ari (li) 1.59.95; E Merki (li) 2.00.01; H floi (Japan) 2.00.03; M Lopez-Zubero (So) 2.00.77; B Sikora (Pol) 2.00.99; R Cabrera (Cuba) 2.01.20. Women's 50m freestyle

Company (Link) 6-3, 6-4; M Parkey (Aus) by W Black (Zim) 6-4, 6-2; G Re-andeki (GB) by M Guettelson (Swej 6-7, 7-6, 6-3; S Environmen (Sp.) by A Enclisch (Pr) 7-6, 4-6, 6-2; G Remai (Nor) by M Ch-Woman's singles Qualifiers for finals Jingyl Le (Chira) 25.10ac; A Van Dyken (US) 25.12 8 Volker (Ger) 25.45; A Merlino (US) 25.7; Ving Shan (China) 25.71; N Meshcherye-lova (Rus) 25.73; L Mertindale (Bar) 25.76; L Clichacon (Swe) 25.84; Second rounds C Maritime: Eloj II; R Zru-balova (Slovat), 6-1, 6-4; I Gerrechtele-pai (Arg) IN M Plens (Fr) 6-4, 1-6, 7-6; I Haledi (Cro) bt V Ruano-Pescual (Sp) 7-6, 6-5; K Halessdova (Slovak) bt L Courtois (Se) 7-5, 6-2.



Fast start . . . Gail Devers of the United States begins the defence of her 100 metres title in the opening day heats

Women's doubles

First round: J Novotna/H Sukova (Cz) D A Kourokova/E Makazova (Real #42, 6-2 Table Tennis Men's singles

Meer's sirrgles

Round-robins The Wansy (Chira) bt 0
Talakas (Gre) 21-19, 21-11; D Heisher
(Neith) bt P Mutambuze (Ug) 21-6, 21-6; G
Press (GS) bt 3 hydron (Jami) 21-6, 21-7, J
Rosesberg (GS-) bt Chiran Tsung Lo (RiC)
21-15, 21-13; Gwelleng Lin (Chira) bt 3
Grujo (Tug) 19-21, 21-16, 21-11; M Shillustani (Japan) bt G Munox (Mex) 21-15, 21-15, 21-6, 21-16, 21-11, 21-6; P Rorbed (Cz) bt A M Marengo (Chira) 21-11, 21-6; P Salves (Bel) bt M Smythe (Aum) 21-17, 21-2; J Salves (Bel) bt M Smythe (Aum) 21-17, 21-2; J Salves (Bel) bt V Floras (Form) 21-10, 21-16; P Press; (Ger) bt O A Rhabashi (Knyl) 21-7, 21-11; J-O Waldener (Swe) bt Chul-Soung Lee (S Kor) 21-11, 21-16; I Lagusteckin (Knyl) bt I Opoku (Ghana) 21-4, 21-16; Lingdes (Kong) (Chira) bt I Tokala, (Japan) 21-9, 21-14; Chilang (Phila) bt I Tokala, (Japan) 21-6, 21-14; Chilang (Phila) bt I A Salves (Sala) bt A Maxmow (Fue) 21-6, 17-21, 21-18; Lingdes (Lingdes) bt A Maxmow (Fue) 21-6, 17-21, 21-18; Lingdes (Lingdes) bt A Maxmow (Fue) 21-6, 17-21, 21-19; Lingdes (Lingdes) bt A Maxmow (Fue) 21-6, 17-21, 21-18; Lingdes (Lingdes) bt A Maxmow (Fue) 21-6, 17-21, 21-18; Lingdes (Lingdes) bt A Maxmow (Fue) 21-6, 17-21, 21-19; Lingdes (Lingdes) bt A Maxmow (Fue) 21-6, 17-21, 21-19; Lingdes (Lingdes) bt A Maxmow (Fue) 21-6, 17-21, 21-19; Lingdes (Lingdes) bt A Maxmow (Fue) 21-6, 17-21, 21-19; Lingdes (Lingdes) bt A Maxmow (Fue) 21-6, 17-21, 21-19; Lingdes (Lingdes) bt A Maxmow (Fue) 21-6, 17-21, 21-19; Lingdes (Lingdes) bt A Maxmow (Fue) 21-6, 17-21, 21-19; Lingdes (Lingdes) bt A Maxmow (Fue) 21-6, 17-21, 21-19; Lingdes (Lingdes) bt A Maxmow (Fue) 21-6, 17-21, 21-19; Lingdes (Lingdes) bt A Maxmow (Fue) 21-6, 17-21, 21-19; Lingdes (Lingdes) bt A Maxmow (Fue) 21-6, 17-21, 21-19; Lingdes (Lingdes) bt A Maxmow (Fue) 21-6, 17-21, 21-19; Lingdes (Lingdes) bt A Maxmow (Fue) 21-6, 17-21, 21-19; Lingdes (Lingdes) bt A Maxmow (Fue) 21-6, 17-21, 21-19; Lingdes (Lingdes) bt A Maxmow (Fue) 21-6, 17-21, 21-19; Lingdes (Lingdes) bt A Maxmow (Fue) 21-6, 17-21, 21-19; Lingdes (Lingdes) bt

Women's singles

21-16.

Wonnen's singles

Rosset-robbs L Laysse (GB) bt N Kyakobys (Lig) 21-8, 21-6; Y Deng (China) bt M
Sversson (Swe) 21-14, 21-6; Heng Giac
(China) bt R Sato (Layss) 27-17, 21-17; K
Dreshou (Fr) bt M Musoks (Ug) 21-7,
21-6; V Pespeves (Slovak) bt S Ostas (Chila)
21-11, 21-4; C Li (RC) bt L Chousil (Lab)
21-7, 21-6; C Li (RC) bt L Chousil (Lab)
21-7, 21-6; C Li (RC) bt L Chousil (Lab)
21-7, 21-6; C Li (RC) bt L Rosse (Cro)
bt S Touzil (Tun) 21-15, 21-14; T Benese (Cro)
bt S Touzil (Tun) 21-15, 21-14; T Benese (Cro)
bt S Touzil (Tun) 21-15, 21-16; T Palins (Rus)
13-21, 21-13, 21-10; C Sing (Tai) bt A Arisi
(I) 19-21, 21-13, 21-12; C Sing (Tai) bt A Arisi
(I) 19-21, 21-13, 21-12; C Sing (Tai) bt A Frence
(II) 19-21, 21-15, 21-12; P Wa Ched (HK)
tt M Hooman-Klopenburg (Neh) 21-17,
21-19; Wel Lis (Chiss) bt A Frence
(Res)
15-21, 21-25, 21-18; Whense (Ger) bt T
Todo (Japan) 21-12, 13-21, 13-21, 21-16;
Chee Chis-Ten (Tai) bt A Sessenburg (Turburan) 21-8, 21-11; Lessy-dia
Tu (N Kor) bt E Gortzales (Peru) 21-6,
21-16; Chee Chis-Ten (Tai) bt A Sessenburg (Turburan) 21-8, 21-11; Lessy-dia
Tu (N Kor) bt E Gortzales (Peru) 21-6,
21-16; S Zhen (Aus) bt R Dipoyand (Indo)
21-2, 21-15; L'I, L Konstine (Braz) bt R Kafio
(Mg) 21-13, 21-16; O Bedesese (Flora) bt H
Vitenshoop (Noh) 21-14, 21-15, 21-16; C BeIndoor (Noh) 21-14, 21-15, 21-16; C BeIndoor (Noh) 21-17, 21-16; C BeIndoor (Noh) 21-14, 21-15, 21-16; C BeIndoor (Noh) 21-14,

Water Polo Men's classification



Hockey

**************** BRITAIN's men must beat South Africa today to

squandered a priceless point when Malaysia snatched a 2-2 draw two minutes from time although Russell Garcia's side were offered a lifeline when the highly fancied Aus-tralia lost 3-2 to Holland. "It was the best possible result," said Britain's man-

over the Aussies would take us into the medal matches."

SportsGuardian

Ecuador wins first ever medal as track and field starts 'real' Games

Perez walks to gold

NY believe the Olympics bave properly started only when the track and field gets underway. Ecuador, until yesterday, had no reason to suppose athletics even existed, having never won an Olympic medal of any sort, but the South American country experienced unparal-leled joy when its 20-kilo-metre walker Jefferson Perez won the first track gold of the centennial Games.

It will not be a victory remembered for long outside Ecuador. Indeed it is sometimes possible to believe Michael Johnson's assault on the 200 and 400 metres double is the only event that matters et all here. The International Ameteur

Affiletic Federation, in ca-hoots with NBC, has done everything possible, short of sponsoring him themselves. to make sure Johnson repeats his golden double of last year's world championships

in Gothenburg. The LAAF fixed the schedrise that fixed the sched-ule, NBC bagged prime-time viewing Now all Johnson has to do is win. "If there was not any risk, everybody would be doing it," said Johnson this week. "It's the risk that makes me want to do it - and

the challenge." The main challenge to Johnson will come in the second event, the 200m. There are probably three guys walking the earth who can beat Michael and none of them can beat him in the " said the fast dev ing Trinidad sprinter Ato

Namibia's Frankie Fredericks is the man who may cause the stars and stripes up set the Americans dread but by Monday night the first part of the dream double should have been completed.

There was early evidence during yesterday's beats that the track will be very fast. "I'm sure the world 100m record will be broken during these games," said Bolden. That stands at 9.85, set by Leroy Burrell of the US in July 1994.

Despite the plethora of problems, ticket sales have been higher than expected for these Games and yesterday the Olympic Stadium was virtually full from the moment the walkers set off. 'People are leaving the Olympic ven-ues and turning around at the box office to buy more tickets," said a spokesman for the Atlanta Committee for the Olympic Games, So far broken-down buses

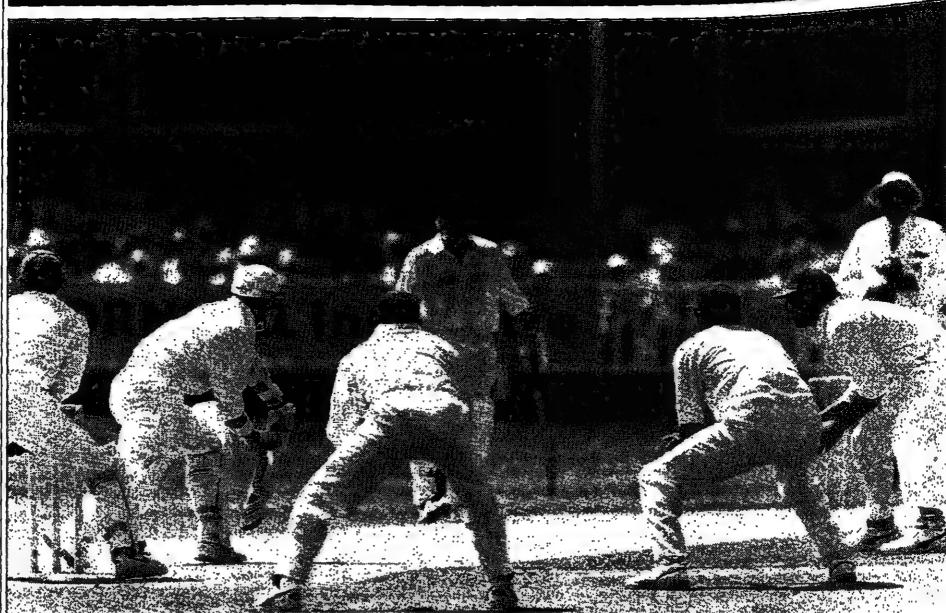
have cost the organisers more than £650,000, while ACOG will forgo substantial fees which the leading news agencies were to have paid for event results.

Steve Smith qualified for tomorrow's high jump final but there was failure for Dalton Grant, who also missed the final in Barcelona four years ago. There was disap-pointment, too, for the shot putter Shaun Pickering. Pickering had thrown 19.50

during the warm-up, which would have been enough to reach the final, but once in-side the stadium he could manage only 18.29, missing out by more than a metre. Burundi's athletes will remain in Atlanta despite Thursday's coup by the

"They [the athletes] want to participate in the Games," said Leonard Nduwayo, the team's chef de mission. "We are supposed to stay until worse politically, we may

This is the first time Bu-rundi has participated in the Olympics and its six athletes all runners, have not yet met IOC time standards to qualify. However, the IOC can still ATHERTON'S MEN PUT ON THE RACK BY PAKISTAN'S ATTACK



Pin-down treatment . . . Alec Stewart fends off Mushtaq Ahmed but the leg-spinner eventually succeeded in trapping him leg-before with his googly for 89

England v Pakistan: first Test, second day

A copy of the Collins English Dictionary will be sent to the first five correct entries drawn. Entries to

Guardian Crossword No 20,716, P.O. Box 315, Mitcham.

Surrey, CR4 2AX, by first post on Friday Solution and winners in the Guardian on Monday August 5.

England lose the plot

Mike Selvey at Lord's

English cricket there is a case for shifting Test matches away from the splendour of Lord's

It is the inspirational effect that the pilgrimage to the Home of Cricket has on visitPakistan have won only

In 1982 it was Mohsin Rhan's double century that put them on the way. Ten years later and there were Wasim Akram and Wagar Younis, brothers in arms with the ball but an unlikely pairing with the bet, who res-

46. Afterwards Wasim, in his hapless Graeme Hick. country and two of those at euphoria, had said how they and in St John's Wood

Now, unless England plan very well over the next three lays, Wasim, leader of his side, could do it again. After a first day of even-steven skir-mishing England are on the rack and fighting for their existence. By the close Graham Thorpe (43) and Jack Russell (4) were left fighting desper-ately to hold off the relentless Pakistan attack.

Thorpe has already batted for two and a quarter hours—including a stand of 64 with Mark Ealham (25)—and much will depend on how he copes with the onslaught first thing this morning. But at 300 for five, in reply to Pakistan's 340, England already have an uphill task to save the game. let alone win it.

If there was disappointment in England's performance, however, it was still a day to savour the talent and rich variety in the Pakistan attack with the new ball, taking out later, when the reverse swing began to take effect, handing over to Wagar, who whistled in and blasted away Nick Knight — shortly after he had completed a worthy half-cen-tury — and, as inevitably as winter follows summer, the hapless Graeme Hick.

enough, with Knight and Mike Atherton putting on 27 in five overs and no hint of ovement for either opening bowler before a poor piece of umpiring removed the captain. Wasim, operating over the wicket from the Nursery End, slapped the ball in short of a length and, as Atherton jumped across his crease, he was struck just above the

seems, are no different. Out of | and took Pakistan from 26 for | completed a worthy half-cen-| runs | were of little conse52 matches between the sides | eight to victory with an un- tury — and, as inevitably as | quence for Knight, after a

Mushtaq Ahmed, too, was with the single wicket of Alec Stewart, perhaps did not gain the reward his wiles deserved. But the effect may be longer term: most of the England batsmen read him as well as a Chinese dictionary and the second innings, not to mention the rest of the series.

England had started well enough, with Knight and Mike Atherton putting on 27 in five overs and no hint of movement for either opening bowler before a poor piece of umpiring removed the cap-tain. Wasim, operating over the wicket from the Nursery End, slapped the ball in short of a length and, as Atherton jumped across his crease, he was struck just above the

knee roll. Now an umpire has the devil of a job; in the space of less than half a second, his eyes must focus on the front crease, read the pitch of the ball and do so again at the other end, and he must immeliately compute the variables of the lbw law. But Peter Willey, in his first Test, got it wrong, with the ball clearly (thanks to TV) missing off stump and perhaps pitching outside leg stump as well.

Knight, meanwhile, had

played with freedom and con-fidence on his return to the side, driving strongly and hitting Mushtaq to the boundary three times in as many balls Mushtaq, like most leg-spin-ners, likes bowling to left-

Stewart, too, looked more comfortable than he has done for a while and had begun to clip the ball nicely off his legs and drive emphatically. Omi nously, though, with the ball more than 30 overs old, Wasim had begun to work it off

cape when 48, edging Mush tag into and out of Aamir So hail's hands at slip. The subsequent two runs at first were deemed leg-byes (al-though Knight acknowledged his half-century) but were later reinstated by the um-

quence for Knight, after a art, stretched forward to Wagar and was given lbw by innings, with this summer's sion that did not look too clever. One over later and knocks. He now has one more innings before patience surely finally runs out and fore again but indisputably omeone else gets a chance. In the morning England this time as he offered no

made heavy weather of finish-ing the Pakistan innings as Rashid Latif played with enter-prise for his 45 and Ata-ur-Rehstroke to Mushtaq's googly With the entrance of Rick came a real piquancy to the day: a play within a play. With expectations unfulfilled man supported sensibly. Together they negotiated 75 minutes, adding precisely 50 and surviving the second new at the age of 30, he knows only too well the pressure under-but would probably have chosen any bowlers in the world other than Wagar and Mushball, before Ian Salisbury finally found the perfect legthan wadar and musti-tag against whom to justify himself. It was an unhappy 20 minutes he spent in the middle before Wagar cranked break to dismiss Latif. Even that had a downside.

If he could do that, what would Mushtaq manage? Over the next few days we

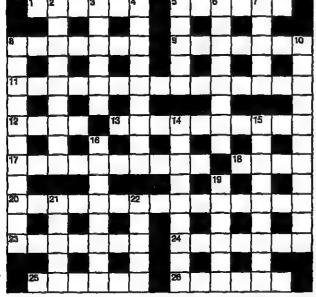
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finds the s



up a gear and sneaked the yorker through. Since his fine

Guardian COMMAN Prize Crossword No 20,716



Set by Araucaria Across

1 Father of the House,

- perhaps, as is plain (6) S Pierce the heart, perhaps,
- with little time in the part (6) 8 Decisive colonial (7) 9 Suggested remedy: don't
- play the guitar? (7) 11 Steeplechaser backing my way to the Lake's crime fiction (6,9)
- 12 Sealing with strings (4) 13 Mistake by person that's good on paper in flier's
- 17 Too 22 to give Sir a chance
- 20 Bans for quagmiry mess by cavalrymen on pub signs (7,2,6)
- 23 Bat, not getting a century 12, possibly (7) 24 Unconscious of striking at the wrong temperature for
- 25 Large cup for small mouth?
- 26 Less than half the least note
- is death (6) Down
- 2 Picture reviewer with gout if temperature's wrong (3,6)
- 3 Bed and board puts
- everyone in a temper (6) 4 Cooker of eggs, rider of
- bikes, and muddler of More money for being a pass enger in public transport (5) 6 Has an idea for 11 after 16?

Name

Address

orgies (5) 8 I have a day on herbs: I couldn't pay for food (6,5) 10 Abused dope — my smile is misplaced (11)

7 Welsh beast in Bacchic

- 14 Group with personal number meeting other tolk at the Yard (4,5)
- 15 Certain to come up about duplicator that's wrong (9) 16 Turn in a gleuth that's changed what he always



21 Take to one side (5) 22 Dessart laid around us is

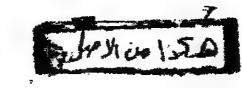
19 One way to learn in the afternoon for now (3,3)

Mushtaq Ahmed, too, was weaving his magic spells but, with the single wicket of Alec Stewart, perhaps did not gain the reward his wiles deserved. But the effect may be longer term: most of the Eng-land batsmen read him as well as a Chinese dictionary and the second innings might be his showcase. England had started well the straight. Knight had a fortunate es

later reinstated by the uni-pires. The extra couple of Captain Marvel... Wasim Akram dismisses Mike Atherton

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Saturday July 27 Sunday July 28 1996

OUIT Guardian COUNTY



Big event, big bucks, big heat . . . the Olympic ideal as viewed by three spectators at the Holland v Germany water polo match. As at Euro 96, the Dutch, complete with inflatable orange plastic hammers, are the best supporters PHOTOGRAPH: LUCA SPUNO

The hacks are hacked off but the punters are happy punting. JOHN DUNCAN in Atlanta finds the spectators having a good time, y'all. Some even have their own sponsors

The fans aren't bellyaching

comes from Normal, Illinois, and likes judo. That presumably is why he has the stars and stripes painted on his face and the Olympic rings like a lovebite drawn on his neck. There is little normal about the way Atlanta and its international visitors have taken to the Olympics.

While journalists have been headbutting information terminals and athletes have been hitacking buses, the average Olympic fan has been having a

pretty good time all in all, y'all.
With wigs and painted faces,
they make a colourful backdrop to an Olympics that has
been chaos off the pitch but
flawless on it and good oldfashioned fim besides. The Norwegians have brought cow

a fat bloke sponsored by a pharmacist, the Kazakhstania get to venues early to have their balalaikas checked through security, the Poles have a cavalry bugier, and the Tunisians have a bagniper and wearing dunce hats that look embarrassingly like KKK fancy dress.

The Koreans have glant yel-low inflatable missiles that say Victory! Korea!" on them, which they bang together for extra effect at key moments. Fifty raucous Poles have enlivened the wrestling with their chanting and flag-waving. "Look at us, we are really showing the world something," said Peter Toczek, a 28-year-old house painter who now lives in Connecticut, in apt summary of the pride without prejudice. Even the Americant hardes a proper some particular and hardes are the same of the pride without prejudice. Even the Americant hardes are properties and hardes are the same and the same areas areas and the same areas and the same areas areas and the same areas areas and the same areas area

Boring it isn't. "We like to think we are the extra man, a cans have shown remarkable nationalist restraint, aided by

the fact that flags of nations not in action are sensibly sanned from arenas.

The supporters' prize, as ever, goes to the Dutch, who won best fans at Euro 96 by a fan, his copious expenses as a round-the-world supporter of Brazilian teams funded by a bright orange street. Two Dutch supporters, Bert Baker Rio company in the certain knowledge that few television ing and Peter Vos, trail from event to event with orange directors will resist the urge to use his image in a quiet wigs and umbrella hats, anmoment. wigs and unificial part, and other Dutch woman worst clogs to every event and refused to be discouraged by a narrowly-avoided nasty fall at the swimming. At the indoor volleyball, Dutch fans somebow found inflatable orange

moment.

Representing Britain off the track and mat is Peter Cross, whom you will inevitably see on television over the next few weeks. Cross, from Dawlish in Devon, is hard to ignore, dressed in an Arab costume complete with headdress made antirely out of the Union Jack.

'T have had my picture taken so many times that it is starting to get exhausting." he said. plastic hammers to wave when the team were doing well and one fan expressed his feelings through an orange puppet that led chants from the and of his

countries. And it's not so hard

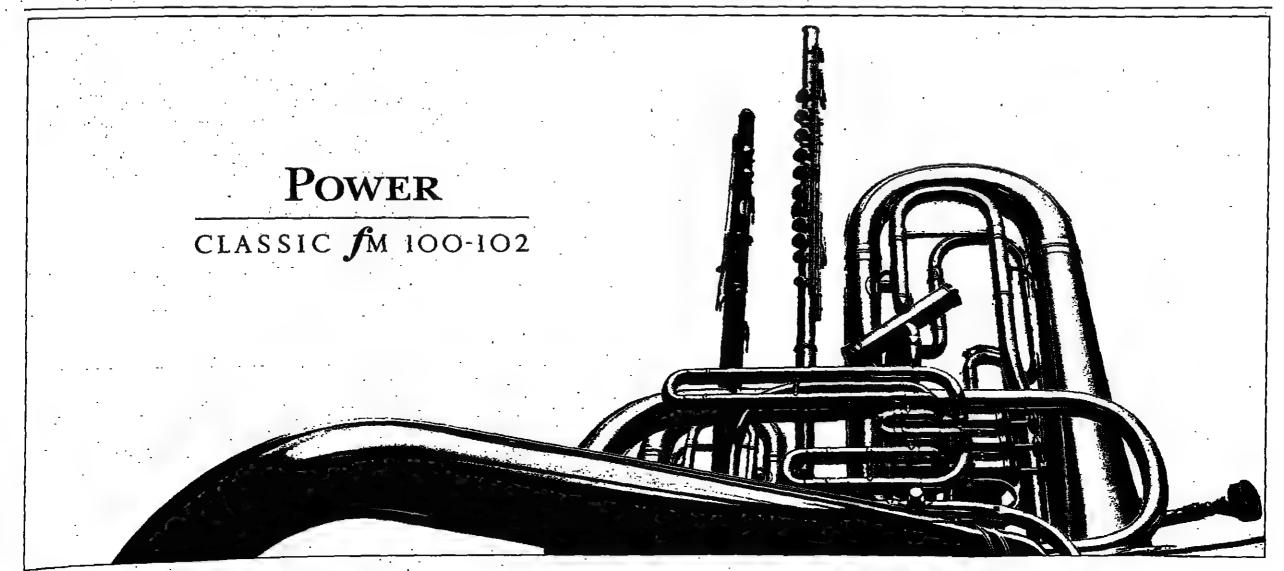
to start a conversation because

small edge for our teams and

competitors," said Bola, a 30-stone Brazilian who is effec-tively a professional sports everyone is here for the same reason and the Americans are so friendly anyway." The majority of fans in At-lants, though, are American —

in fact around 70 per cent of them are not even from out of state. Far more tickets were sold to Georgians than the organisers expected, upsetting plans for a killing hatched by plans for a killing hatched by hotels and traders. "The town is packed but there are too many people coming in for the day from Georgia, buying a burger and a T-shirt, seeing the events and then going straight home," said one angry stall owner.
But they are here sure

But they are here sure snough, the Americans punc-tuating every event with their firm "Yu-Esss-Ay" chant, a statement more than an exhoring to get exhausting," he said.
"But it's nice to get to know
different people from different tation from a nation that gets



Blair has got this wrong

HEN Tony Blair became leader of the Labour Party two years ago he spoke often and powerfully about the need for Labour to become a more inclusive political culture, encouraging debate, respecting different points of view, looking for answers in other political traditions. The events of the past week suggest that these admirable intentions have now been abandoned. As power nears, inclusiveness and pluralism are out, party discipline and doing things the leader's way are in. In this way, Mr Blair has turned out not to be such a different politician after all.

This week's shadow cabinet reshuffle is worrying evidence of this reversion to type. On Wednesday, Clare Short got 218 votes in the shadow cabinet elections and came third from the top of the poll. Twenty-four hours later, she was moved from her job shadowing transport and exiled to overseas development. Attempts to present this as anything other than a demotion are worthy of the Soviet Communist Party in its heyday. The truth is that Ms Short has been sidelined to a job which does not carry Cabinet status in government. In other words, she is on her way out.

Ms Short had become a pretty good shadow transport secretary. Ironically, she was not afraid to take unpopular decisions, particularly against the renationalisation of the railways. But she has been punished because she speaks her mind on issues and in ways which are inconvenient to the party leadership. We do not agree with everything she says but a lot of it is worth saying. Ms Short is an imperfect politician but her readiness to say what she thinks is a strength and not, as Mr Blair sees it, a weakness. The weakness was to sack her.

This inability to tolerate those who are deemed to have spoken out of turn is also what lies behind the move of Chris Smith away from social security. Mr Smith had just invested a year in mastering a new and complicated brief with great skill. Now he is gone — in a swap with Harriet Harman that may not be a demotion but it is certainly a mark of displeasure. Mr Smith is whispered against because he would not think suffi-ciently fashionable thoughts about the welfare state.

At least it is clear that Mr Smith will be in Mr Blair's cabinet, where he belongs. That cannot now be said with confidence of Ms Short. And nor, though with less anxiety from this quarter, can it now be said of Michael Meacher, Tom Clarke or Derek Foster either. Mr Blair has a problem with supply and demand here. He has too many expectant colleagues (27 of them) chasing too few (23) cabinet posts after the election. At least four of the current hopefuls will be dis-

appointed, and the distribution of jobs suggests that Clarke, Foster, Meacher and Short are now the most likely to be discarded from the final squad. Mr Blair has not said so, but it is evident he intends to disregard the party rule requiring him to give cabinet posts to those elected this week - and rightly so.

Perhaps, after the summer, the events of this week will seem less worrying than today. Perhaps, as Mr Blair hopes, the imminence of the election will concentrate minds on yet another show of party loyalty for the sake of the longed-for victory. Perhaps the party conference will simply be intoxicated with the prospect of power. Yet Mr Blair is taking increasing risks with his party's loyalty. His response to disagreement seems increasingly disciplinary and punitive It is alienating people who ought to be his natural supporters. Maybe he should think the unthinkable; that he is getting it a bit wrong.

Repairing the Rolls

NCE upon a time there was a much admired Rolls-Royce in Britain. Instead of wheels it had wigs. Its proper name was the civil justice system but its "owners", the lawyers, always talked about "our Rolls-Royce system of justice". In reality, as Dickens documented over 100 years ago, there were serious

defects even in the early civil justice model. What began as a civil justice system has been turned into a system of injustice. Hence the importance of Lord Woolf's final report published yesterday. 600 pages of detailed changes in the most radical review of the system for 100 years. Thousands of people with serious grievances over medical negligence, personal injury, housing, etc should cheer.

There are a few lawyers who still defend the system. Get them to read Woolf delays which have lengthened from an already unbelievable two years to three; the uncertainty which citizens face about costs, length of trial, procedures; the obscene manner in which costs have escalated. All social justice students should read annex three of the report a detailed analysis of over 2,000 cases. Early reviews had established that for every £100 gained in personal injury compensation, lawyers walked away with \$85. Woolf has found much worse. For claims of less than £12,500, the legal fees of just the winning party in 40 per cent of cases were over £10,000 with 10 per cent over £20,000. At the most extreme, one claim for £1,000 cost £26,000. In the words of Lord Woolf. "A system which pays more in lawyers' fees than in compensation to accident victims is indefensible."

So who's at fault? Four groups should be in the dock: judges for their poor control over cases; court administrators for their inadequate administration of the system; lawyers for the greed with which they have milked the system; and ministers for their timidity in refusing to take the legal system on.

Woolf's first aim is to divert large numbers away from litigation. It is too cumbersome and too expensive for many disputes. He wants to see alternative ways of resolving disputes like arbitration, mediation and conciliation: from small consumers to big business. Beyond there would be three tiers: small claims where citizens would be certain about the costs, length and timetable; fast track under which there would be tight control over costs, time and procedure; and multi-track for more complicated cases.

Why should this work when so many previous reviews — one less than 10 years ago — have failed? Yesterday the main parties were welcoming it judges, lawyers, consumer groups. The chief architect, Woolf, now sits in the strategic judicial seat of Master of the Rolls and his fellow reformer, Sir Richard Scott, is head of Civil Justice. Judges who fail to become active trial managers will be taking on the senior judiciary, not just ministers.

Of course serious doubts remain. There is no strategic plan for the expansion of mediation and arbitration services and a rejection of compulsory arbitration which happens in parts of America and Australia. The lawyers. who have lived off hourly fees, will remain suspicious. Restructuring the attitudes of the judiciary is a huge cultural challenge. And neither major political party has backed it yet, although the Lord Chancellor did embrace the main thrust of the interim Woolf Report which was on the same lines. Ironically, the Lord Chancellor has been a better friend in this field than Labour. Delay is not in the electorate's interest.

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Huge areas of Africa are threatened by the coup in Burundi, partly as western and African countries have still never come to terms with the Rwanda conflict, MARTIN WOOLLACOTT argues. So who should be calling the shots?

A land split right down the middle

some part of Africa, or when it is noticed that it is still going on or getting worse, western countries slip They swing between blaming themselves and blaming Afri cans, between urging and opposing military intervention.

between caring and not caring The problem is the usual one. It is not that we do not car but that we only care in bursts so that policy becomes a series Thus it is now with Burundi, where a coup has underlined the general neglect of a crisis affecting a large area of Central Africa. That crisis endangers not only Burundi but Rwanda and Zaire, and even Usanda and Tanzania. Its scal is partly due to the failure of ern and African countries to deal with the unfinished business of the Rwandan conflict.

A partly international war i being waged in the region be-tween extremist Hutu groups and mixed Tutsi and Hutu gov ernments. In Rwanda, there is still a relatively moderate gov ernment. In Burundi, there has been a mixed governmen caught between a Tutsi army and Tutsi political forces trying to maintain Tutsi power and physical security by covert means and armed Hutu

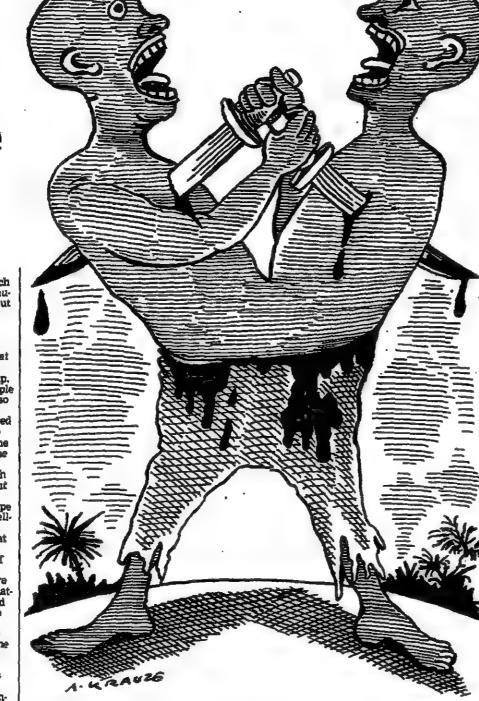
extremists. The new regime there has, naturally, endorsed the princi ple of ethnic peace, but it is also calling up Tutsi youth for militia service. An intensified campaign against Hutu rebels is likely. The Tutsi-dominated security forces have notably failed to distinguish between Hutu forces and civilians in the past. It may be, therefore that this coup is a disaster. But caution is advisable, since there already was a disaster in Burundi, and indeed in the region as a whole. The problem in Burundi is not so much that the international community has failed to act there, but that it has failed in the management of the broader conflict.

When the Rwandan Patriotic Front's forces won in that country, the Hutu regime's troops, most of the leadership and up to a million of its people fled into Zaire, with some also going to Burundi and other countries. In Zaire, unopposed and not much noticed by the international community, the refugee camps into a social base for war, apparently with the acquiescence of President

They were allowed to escape the consequences of their well-deserved defeat in Rwanda. They ethnically cleansed that also used to live there, and of groups. From there they have struck into Rwanda asassinat ing government officials, and have offered training to the Hutu of Burundi.

Their influence on the Burundi rebels can only be of the most poisonous kind. Un-Rwanda Hutus see all this as one war which will only end with the overthrow of govern-ments in both Rwanda and Burundi and their replacement by regimes which would solve the Tutsi "question" by a combination of killing, displace-

ment, and oppression. For all the atrocities for which Tutsis have been res ponsible in Rwanda and Burundi, they must in the long run be more disposed to compromise, as well as more concerned with security. As minorities, they cannot otherwise survive. The perpetual oppression of the Hutu majority, whatever was attempted in the past, is not a serious option now. Tutsis in



Rwanda understand this well, while Tutsis in Burundi, whose dominant position has only been diluted, understand it less well. Hutu leaders, by contrast, can think in terms of getting rid of Tutsis, or at least of displacing them completely from all positions of power, privilege, or wealth. Some still do, and they are calling the shots, literally, in Zaire, and parts of Burundi. They would do so again in Rwanda if they could. This Central African war is not a senseless affair, or one in which outsiders should have no sympathies.

A better course over the last wo years would have been for the international community to have prevented the creation of a Hutu extremist base in Zaire, to have pushed much harder for the return of refu gees, and to have provided far more funding for Rwandan government projects. There should also have been more money and help for the war crimes tribunal which has noved with terrible slowne Swifter justice would have done two things.

It would have signalled the

whether Hutu or Tutsi, could get away with murder. And a quaring of accounts would have helped in the normalis tion of relations between Tutsi and Hutu in Rwanda. To help Rwanda become as much a model of Tutsi-Hutu normalisation as possible, and to roo out Hutu extremists in Zaire these should have been the objectives. If they had been achieved_it seems reasonable to speculate, the situation in Burundi would have been less dangerous. Instead, little was done about Zaire, while in Rwanda relations between the

government and international agencies have been difficult and quarrelsome.

Many have urged a peace-seping force for Burundi. The UN Secretary-General, Boxtros Boutros-Ghali, first urged that a force be prepared last year. He repeated his proposal to the Security Council in January this year, but the United States, whose logistical resources are vital to any oper-ation, was negative at that time and has continued to be

A force for Burundi has been on and off the agenda ever since. African leaders, meeting at Arusha a few days ago, secured agreement from the Burundi president and prime minister to the creation of such a force. Indeed that agreement may have been what pre-ciplizated the coup.

Most Tutal leaders have

seen the introduction of an in-terrestional force into Barundi as likely to lead to "their" army being disbanded or reorganised and have therefore resisted it. It was a proposal to make the army ethnically bal-anced which led to the 1993 coup and the assssination of the first freely elected, and the first Hutu, president of

The former American ambassador in Burundi. Robert Krueger, said in a cable that reached the press this spring that "in an obscure country in the heart of Africa, the killing is proportionately vastly beavier than what the camera are covering (in Lebanon); or ndeed almost anywhere else

in the world." Burundi was suffering the equivalent of an Oklahoma City bombing every day, he calculated. Stephen Solarz, a man, has argued for the United States to take the leading role in an intervention, supplying

verything but fighting troops We have gone past the point of throwing soldiers at probems whenever they arise. If there is to be a military intervention it should be the instru ment of a coherent policy. The painful evolution of Burundi Tutsis has taken them to the point where they see that their security cannot be guaranteed by control of the armed forces. The most significant fact about recent violence is that as many Putsis as Hutus have died. The Tutsis, it may be guessed, are

ometimes open doors. Pierre Buyoya, who has seized the presidency, played a prominent part in efforts to oring democracy and ethnic peace to Burundi when he held hat position more legitimately etween 1987 and 1993. There is perhaps a way out through ations for the insertion of a peacekeeping force. There is not yet a case for the storming of Burundi.

Eccentrics revisited

Rattling the bars



lan Aitken

HE DEATHS this week of Mad Mitch and Jessica Mitford made the obituary pages of the newspapers by far the least dismal read on offer in an otherwise grim few days of blood-soaked news. It is rare for two such colourful people to be memorialised on success sive davs

But what made it especially iquant is that the two people though both quintessentially British, could hardly have en more different. I suspec that Lt Colonel Mitchell would cheerfully have had Comrade Mitford shot if he'd ever staged a counter-revolu-tion — though perhaps his respect for a peer's daughter might have saved her.

Both were seriously eccentric - and, as both of them knew full well, it was an essential part of their stock in trade. I still light a candle in my heart when I recall Jessica's Desert Island Discs, in which she made poor old Roy Plomley play things like the Internationale, the Red Flag and assorted International

Brigade songs.
Mitchell's madness, howver, was on a different plane There was very definite method in it, as he demonstrated when he planned his most famous/notorious coup. the recapture of the Crater district of Aden from the loca equivalent of what he probably called "the "fuzzyvuzzies".

My witness to this was the late Llew Gardner, who was reporting the affair at the time. He and other hacks wer invited to attend at a certain hour, when the attacking orce was due to set off behind the regimental piper. Transport would be laid on. Gardner remarked that this

was extremely generous, but added that there wouldn't be much point in it unless the reporters were given an opportunity to put over their stories. The good colonel took | Tony Blair.

the point at once, asking when they needed to file and how long it would take. Once advised, he rescheduled his plan of attack. He got his

headlines, as planned. But of Mad Mitch's bravery, Gardner was in no doubt. After the successful operation, the colonel chose to brief his guests on the roof of a building in the town. A sudden burst of automatic fire sent the backs and the accompanying jocks diving for cover. When they stood up again, sheepishly dusting themselves down, Mitchell was still upright. He hadn't paused in his dissertation by a single syllable.

A fine fellow, then? Well, he conce brought an ex-officer of Hitler's Condor legion — the outfit responsible for Guernica — into the Garrick Club as his guest. He was genuinely puzzled when meny members took forceful exeption. His attitude: well, we're all anti-Bolsheviks now

CLEARLY, Clare Short was lucky not to come top in Wednesday's shadow cabinet 'elections". If coming third secured her a modest demotion, the mind boggles at what outright triumph might have brought. Shadow minister for blotters, inkwells and paperclips, perhaps. But if her demotion was an

nsult to anyone, it was surely even more of an insult to the Parliamentary Labour Party than to Ms Short. What Tony Blair was saying was that the elected members of his party can do what they folly well like, but he isn't going to pay a blind bit of notice

On the other hand, one can't help wondering where Ms Short would bave come in the ballot if she'd been 24 hours earlier with her whinge about the alleged nastiness of politics in (of all papers) the Daily Express. As President Truman might have told her: "If you can" stand the heat, stay out of the

☐ POLITICAL correctness of a Blairite nature seems to ave enguifed most of the new New Statesman. But it evidently has not yet penetrated the small-ads section, and certainly not the lonely hearts

The following advertise ment slipped through the thought police last week: "Shy but never boring female, 39. Labour Party member London-based, seeks similar man, sensitive to women, who shares my politics, for friendship and to moan about

Smallweed



OME SCIENTISTS Claimed this week to have found the source of the Amazon at a point high in the Andes where a trickle emerges from an underground glacier. Such claims are always conten-

tious. As Tim Radford recalled in Wednesday's Guardian, the dispute over the source of the Nile between John Hanning Speke and Richard Burton became so bitter that Speke killed himself.

In the circumstances, it seemed odd to read the unqualified claim, in the context of the newly-established Thames Walk, that the source of the Thames can be found in a field near Kemble in Gloncestershire. Intrepid as ever, Smallweed decided to go in search of the source for himself. This is not an easy endeavour. First you have to find the information office in Circucester which will give you instructions and a rudimentary map. Then you have to find a parking space off the Cirencester-Tetbury Road, imme-diately beyond the low bridge close by the Thames Head Inn. Then you must either risk crossing a rail-

ay or endure a short walk back along the A433—an ordeal quite unmatched. I guess, by anything ever encountered by Speke or Burton. In time you will come to the source. You will know it's the source because there's a stone with a plaque, which looks to be

covered in plaque, on which the Conservators of the Thames 1857-1974 assert that this is the source. You'd never have guessed it otherwise, since there isn't even the merest trickle of water. Though constantly menaced by cows and rabbits,

Smallweed intrepidly foltion was also uncommonly lowed the Thames Path for at least a mile. A promising ditch appeared at one point and even a modest bridge. but water? Not one drip. It made one fear for London. If this was the state of the source of the Thames, could the Palace of Westminster and St Thomas's Hospital be facing each other today

across an arid ditch? It even made Smallweed warm to the counter-claims of Seven Springs, south of Cheltenham, which, according to a book by Hllaire Belloc, has a much superior altitude, gen loesn't suffer nearly so much from drought. Or even those of Lechlade, the point at which the Thames, baving collected various tributaries, becomes a river, blg enough to accommodate a regatta (there's one this reekend). I do not wish to exaggerate my sufferings on behalf of my readers . but I have to add that my expedi-

S EXPLAINED by my alter ego last week, l have not been quite myself in recent weeks, having felt an urgent need to spend a few months in com munion with the spirit of the Marquis of Vauvenar-

gues. I was therefore unable to offer my usual predictions for the performance during the cricket season of Yorkshire CCC.

trate all its matches at Hea-

dingley, perhaps with the

Readers will no doubt remember my uncanny forecast two years ago that Yorkshire would finish 14th in spite of the signing of the talented Australian Michael Bevan. They actually fin-ished 13th. So here is this year's prediction. I foresee recovery which may even precipitate Yorkshire into top place in the championship table at the end of July Whether this happy condition persists to the end of the on could of course be affected by injuries, prevailing winds, luck with the tost and the tides, etc. Watch out for a bit of a blip against Somerset. My one fear is that, carried away with the arrogance of success, the

odd game or two at Scarborough, eliminating Harrogate, Bradford and Shef-field. Please tell me this is

HE MOST serious threat to the finances of the soon-to-be-inte-grated BBC World Service has yet to be adequately exposed. Under the NHS-style internal market, producer of programmes are charge for everything, even a call to the legendary pronunciation unit. To ask how to pronounce the capital of a tiny African province (as in: should I say Waldegrope or Wra Grave please") costs a tenner (pronounced:

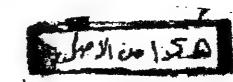
WAS sorry to see that the death had occurred of Prince Albrecht of Bavaria, who some believe should have been King of England, or at least of Scotland, since Albrecht was in

direct line of succession from the Stuarts, which the present lot are not. That Albrecht lived in a castle with 3,425 pairs of antiers and tartan wallpaper is endear-ing enough, but most distingaished of all was the quality of the complaints when newspapers mentioned him. This from the Indepen-

dent on Sunday for instance Sir, Harold Brooks-Baker speaks of Prince Albrecht of Bavaria as a candidate for the British throne. He should have pointed out that while the prince is indeed distantly descended from the sister of Britain's King James II, who lost his throne in 1688, he is also the grandson of Bavaria's Ludwig III. who did not lose his until 1918. Before Prince Albrecht pursues his claim in Britain, he will surely hope to be restored in his native kingdom, Donald Foreman, The Monarchist League. Or this from the Times: Sir.

Your excellent obituary of Duke Albrecht rightly describes him as the recognised descendant of the Royal House of Stuart. While this society recognises and upholds this claim, it has never been its custom to drink to the de jure "King Albert I of England" at its annual dinner, as you allege, Eveline Cruickshanks chairman, the Royal Stuart

ITHDRAWAL of acceptance: The Rev David Burrell, priest-in-charge, Haughley with Wetherden (St Edmundsbury and Ipswich) has withdrawn his acceptance of the post of priest-in-charge, Colkirk with Ox-wick and Pattesley, Whittonsett, Horningtoft, Patalog Groot Polyment with Brisley, Great Ryburgh with Little Ryburgh and Tester ton, Gateley, and Shereford with Dunton (Norwich). Church news, the Times.



Certain death for the operatic maidens



Martin Kettle

HEY SAY of opera that it ain't over till the fat lady sings. But the real truth about most operas is that they ain't over till the fat lady, or increasingly these dave the thin lady, disc days the thin lady, dies. Most times that I go to the opera I ignore this nagging

little thought and its disturb-ing implications. But when you begin to think about it, it's an idea which seems hard to put back in the bottle. When that soprano who has just died comes to take her call, what exactly are we applauding? Not just the soprano, I fear, but also the death as well.

though this is not the least of its curiosities, since the said heroine is the mute of the work's title, and you would think it was a bit of a handicap A surprisingly large num-ber of people of both sexes die in operas, of course, often in untimely and even comic cirto write an opera where the main character does not sing at all. La Muette is also, by the cumstances. I have a book (the late James Anderson's way, the opera which is res-ponsible for the existence of Belgium, but that's for an-Dictionary Of Opera And Operetta ("this indispensible crib", M Kettle. The Guardother day. ian) which lists 37 of the more bizarre examples from death by avalanche (La Wally) to auto-strangulation (Die tote

Death of all kinds is rarely far away at the opera. If sing-ing is our way of giving voice to our profoundest passions,

The Bad Samaritans

Anderson's list is the heroine of Auber's La Muette de Por-

tici, who leaps into the mouth of Vesuvius in the middle of

an eruption. No wonder the

work is rarely performed.

which it is, and death is arguably our greatest fear, then this conjunction is hardly sur prising. Not that we are required to take all operatic deaths terribly seriously. Fortunately or unfortunately, depending on how you look at it, many such deaths all too rarely touch the beart strings. Few who have ever been to an opera have not at some time sniggered as the portly and sweating bero, wounded in the most perfunctory and unconvincing manner, ma nocuvres himself into his singing position to deliver that last anguished and per-

try/king, before expiring awk-wardly as the curtain falls and the final orchestral chords come crashing tragically around him. Nevertheless, few operas are complete without a dead body, and particularly the body of a dead woman. The number of operas which end with the death of a woman is quite shockingly large. I have no intention of nerdishly try-

ing to name them all, but even

fectly turned aria to his wife-lover/mother/son/coun-

a little list including such fam ous pieces as La Traviata, La Boheme, Carmen, Tristan Und Isolde and Salome gives you the general idea. Only Mozart, among the great opera composers, seems to get by without killing women. A much longer list of the famous corpses could very easily be written. But since almost all operas are written by men, this is surely a point worth thinking about thinking about.

Is there some sense in which men give vent to pas-sions in opera which they can not express in real life* I hesi-tate to plunge amateur ishly into fields of psychology of which I know nothing, but it certainly seems a bit odd to me, to put it mildly.

PERA composers seem to require
women to be
heroines, forcing
them through vocal hoops and technical extremes, craving the wild applause of the gallery, only to do away with them, often Violently, in the climactic moments of the

You have to admit that here is a question here that is worth discussing. It is as though men require opera to convey to them an inherently impossible vision of women. Women appear on the operatic stage as brilliant singers, glamorous stars, and icons of passion, And, since women aren't like that, and can't in the end be like that, the men then kill them. And since so many of these women die at the very end of the opera, it seems that there is a certain ritualistic quality about the

erving up of this vengeance. In a sense, the dead woman s the lesson of the opera. In some composers, especially Wagner, this relentless my so-gyny is quite overwhelming. Barely a woman is left stand-ing at the end of any Wagner opera. His women have to die in order to prove that men can continue to write Wagner op-eras. Is this also why so many gay men are opera queens. because opera is a world from which real live women have been banished? I merely speculate.

Since opera characters are

not real people, I suppose you could also say that their deaths are not real deaths. Undoubtedly many of them are not worth taking seriously. You walk away from the thearte with never a second thought about meet change. thought about most charac-ters' passing. Such deaths are perfunctory and without much meaning. But not all operatic death

can be treated with such moral indifference. At the extreme opposite end of the spec trum is the operatic death which will take place, offstage, in the live Channel 4 relay from Glyndebourne this evening of Berg's Lulu. No op-eratic death that I know is so horrifying as this, the more so since it is achieved almost en-tirely by the music and not by some laborious and implausi ble piece of stagecraft. Lulu sings no aria of regret and farewell. Instead she dies screaming No. No. No. the vic-tim of Jack the Ripper, no less. accompanied by an orchestral chord of vicious destructive

It would be factually untrue to say that Lulu is the last

great opera, but it somehow feels like it. Lulu is written by a composer who throughout his life was torn between the old and the new, tradition and modernity, respectability and radicalism. But it is the one raticalism. But it is the one great opera (with the possible exception of Verdi's Falstaff) which is written from a postition of unalterable sympathy for the predicament of women. It stands in direct opposition to the tradition from which it

Lulu herself is the victim as heroine, a familiar enough stereotype. But in Berg there are none of the sentimental evasions in which earlier composers and dramatists would have taken refuge. Musically and dramatically, Berg tries to renegotiate repressive 19th century traditions into the modern world. Ironically, the effort killed him too, but he gave us the most honest — per haps the only honest — male image of women on the oper-atic stage, its honesty never more poignantly expressed than in the unanswerable and unresolved musical questions of the opera's final bars.

Victims of shocking sexual abuse in children's homes are being denied compensation because they later got criminal records. **MAGGIE O'KANE reports**

Victims doubly abused by the system

AN BOTHAM is fighting for "thousands of pounds damages because he says he's been called a racist and I'm fighting over a oxy couple of grand after being sexual abused for years You can't help feeling there's one law for the famous and rich and one for guys like me. So says a 32-year-old man who was raped for 18 months by his housemaster in a Liverpool children's home. The housemaster is now serving a 10-

For the last three decades we have been facing up to the betrayal and sexual abuse of children. Now. however, as details of hundreds of victims abused in four children's homes in the North West continue to unfold, the sympathy stops when it comes to the Government paying out compensation, estimated at

around £40,000 per victim. Next month five young men will begin an appeal against a decision by the Criminal Injuries Compensation Board, which has refused to pay them compensation (or offered reduced sums) because after leaving the homes they got into trouble. They were con-victed of crimes ranging from shoplifting to armed robbery. Their solicitors argue that the abuse took place before they had any criminal convictions and that, as their psychiatric reports show, their behaviour may have been triggered by

Police investigations into homes run by Liverpool social

services, Catholic social

النايار المتعارد

services and the National Children's Home charity concluded that at least another 70 abusers are believed to have operated within recommending each other for obs. In one of the worst of the Liverpool homes, three out of the four dormitory buildings were run by paedophile

It was here that a 12-yearold blond-haired boy was brought in February 1976. His social worker was an old hip-ple type who came to take him to the children's home on a Monday morning. His father was away at work and his mother was getting him and the other four children ready for school. He was the second youngest and he can remem-ber his mother was surprised to see the social worker

During his first year at econdary school he'd missed one day out of three. Sometimes he went to Belle Vue amusement park or the zoo, other times the Stockport and Manchester shopping centres. He'd been in an assessment centre for 13 weeks, where they had warned him then

that if he kept skipping school he'd be sent to borstal. But when he came back all the other kids knew where he'd been, so he was supposed to be hard. He was behind in class and was lost, so he skipped school again. He was the hard boy, and he had a reputation to

keep up. His parents did their best. His mother, who worked as a cleaner, would take him to the



school door. He would go straight out the back door. So here he was, driving up the M56 in a purple Mini with his hipple social worker.

Alan Kenneth Langshaw the housemaster, was there to meet them when they arrived at the school. He remembers that Monday 20 years ago very well. Langshaw was 23 then. He was dressed in a shirt and tie, but dead cool. He showed them around the sports centre, the pool, the play barn it didn't look too bad.

He was telling him that they tried to do their best for all the boys that came to stay. There was even one boy who wanted to do parachute jumping and he, Alan Langshaw, who had played rugby with the Scottish schoolboys and had his own stock car, was organishing things for him. The social worker told solicitors afterwards that Langshaw seemed the type of young man any headmaster would have been

On November 25, 1994, Langshaw, who worked at the home for 11 years, nleaded guilty to 30 counts of indecent

assualt, buggery, actual bodily harm and gross indecency at Warrington Crown Court. For 23 years he worked with children who neede special care, handicapped children and children believed to be victims of sexual abuse. When the purple Mini pulled into the driveway that Monday morning he had already been raping boys for

five years. Two boys tried to stop him in 1986 but it was the year of the Cleveland controversy and nobody believed them except David Glasgow, then a senior clinical psychologist in the regional forensic service. The boys' claims that they had been abused by Langshaw were dismissed and he was reinstated and continued to

abuse for another eight years. As Glasgow said at the time, "It could not have been plainer. I was a respected professional, so what hope was

there for a child." The boy who came to Langshaw at 12 was one of three Langshaw buggered over a two-year period and one of ens now being rejected for compensation by the Criminal Injuries Board. When he goes before the board in two weeks time he says he wants to know why he is there, "fighting for a poxy ten grand". He remembers the blue

emergency night-lights in the dormitory, which were on all the time in case there was a fire and which meant you could see everything. He remembers going to bed at 9pm and then he'd hear the sound of the door squeaking at the top of the landing as Langwearing his suede slippers and short dressing gown. He

housemaster would pass him by. Anything that would stop the hand on his shoulder and the voice that whispered. 'Come on, get your things."

N the first few weeks he was confused by the hous master, who sometimes beat him up in the stairwell between the dormito-ries and then promised to take him to London to see the musical, Oliver, and Madame Tus-saud's. He would get him out of bed and tell him that his wife and baby had died of eukaemia and he just wante to touch him, which nice for

them both — wasn't it? Then he got worse: "A grown man sticks his penis in my mouth or pushes so hard inside me that it's agony and he doesn't hear me crying but keeps saying, Just a little bit

Langshaw had three favourites that he kept back in his

the years after he left the children's home in and out of prison "besting up ponce The prison officer would say to us, "There's a new ponce (sex offender) just in on the fifth floor. I'll open him up for you.' He'd open the door and then clear off and we'd go up for him. I don't know how

lue-eyed 13-year-old boy from Manchester who spent

come of them survived." Of his time in the children's nome he says, "Over the two years I was in there. Langshaw buggered me, raped me, about 300 times. Sometimes it was three or four times a come for me at all. He smelled of that Aramis aftershave and he was all hairy. He tried to kiss me and when he buggered me it hurt. Sometimes I was bleeding but you couldn't tell

anyone. Then he curled up, all

kisses and cuddles like you

would with a woman, and I would have to stay in his bed for the night. Then he'd wake me and tell me to go back before anyone woke up. "The next day then he'd

turn on me for some reason, sometimes you didn't know why, and beat the shit out of me — just a reminder, sort of, that he was in control. In the months before I left he eased

off. I was getting older."
After a year the old hippie social worker in the purple Mini asked Langshaw if it might be time for the boy to go back to his mum? But Lang-shaw thought it was too soon. In desperation, the boy asked to be moved to another wing in the home. But Langshaw insisted that he needed his three special boys there to help the new boys settle in. It wouldn't have mattered much — in another of the L-shaped wings Denis Grain, a big burly his charges in his little flat at the end of the block. On June 7, 1995, at Chester Crown Court he was sentenced to four years on seven counts of buggery and indepent execult.

At the unit near the swim-ming pool, Roy Shuttleworth was into the second of 12 years of raping and indecently assaulting his boys. He was also four buildings, the bousemasters were raping their

OTHE boy who had played truant in the Belle Vue amuse-ment arcade stayed was reminded in the early mornings before dawn that people never believed children-especially ones that were trouble at school, and he'd be making big trouble for

That boy now has his own business, an 11-vear-old son and a long-term girlfriend he Since he left the home after 18 eight convictions, ranging from receiving stolen goods to

football hooliganism.
On August 13 the Criminal injuries Compensation Board. will address his case, and ask the question: "As is clear from Paragraph 6(c) of the Scheme, whether it is appropriate that the applicant should receive nsation from public funds having regard to his character as shown by his criminal convictions or unlawful conduct.

Meanwhile it took him 10 years to tell his girlfriend of the man in the short dressing gown, the blue night-lights, and the man who used Aramis

Then she understood why he never wanted to hold her or cuddle her. He still hasn't told his parents. He wants to appeal and get compensation be cause he'd like to take his son to America. Meanwhile his nost frequent nightmare is still the same. It is the one where Alan Kenneth Langshaw is coming up the stairs for him in a dress and wearing

Touts, bouts and knockouts

Continued from page 13 too tew chances to show oil as a superpower in sport. "You gotta remember," said Coogan Brown, a student from California, "that where you have soc-cer in Europe and all sorts of team sports where you can play internationally, our two best sports — football and baseball — don't have real worldwide championships. The appeal of the Olympics for us is that we get to beat up on other countries at sports and feel proud of our country and what we can achieve."

The athletes feel it too. "I've never experienced anything like that," said Monica Seles after her opening match. "It was just unbelievable." A feelgood factor writ large - no wonder Bill Clinton is here as often as he can and Chelsea has been here for a fortnight.

Ticket sales have been astonishing, aided by cheap prices (take note Euro 96). They have sold out gymnas tics, swimming, basketball (dream team and women's)

and packed them in for boxing. fancing, handball, water polo, in fact almost everything even the Greco-Roman Atlanta now holds the world

record for a beach volleyball match, previously held by Rio de Janeiro. The yachting spectator fleet, capacity 9,000, has three tickets left. The most popular arrange of all though ular event of all, though, doesn't even take place in At-lanta. Soccer — in which Britain grumpily refuses to take part — has sold over two mil-lion tickets for its competition and had a record attendance of 85,000 in Birmingham, Alabama, for the US v Argentina game. If the hacks are backed off, the punters are happily

"I don't know what you in the media are talking about," said Chris Cafaro, who works in downtown Atlanta. "The press need to stop whining. They could learn from the athletes — toughen up and

shut up."
Nothing toughers you up

more than a trip on Atlanta's public transport. There are so many parking lots turned over to stallholders and roads closed off in the Olympic Ring, a circle with a radius of about five miles where all the major venues nestle, that a city where cars have been utterly dominant has had to change over to public transport al-most overnight, and it shows.

The underground system, Marta, has struggled to cope. They have pressed every train they can muster into action, with trains sarviced around the clock for three months before the games began, but the authorities were unable to bot row extra trains because no one else in America has the

same track gauge.
So getting out of an uplifting
Olympic event can be a downreading experience. The queues go back to the pave-ment at chucking-out time in the gymnastics, forning a normally empty and spacious metro system into a whole ne work of Wembley Parks on England matchdays, with the train frequency of London's Northern Line.

Worse, though, is that American Olympic "boosters" are so unused to crowded public transport that they cause chaos. The resulting bad tem-pers are predictable. "I love the



Flag day . . . "We get to beat up on other countries and feel proud," PHOTOGRAPH MATTHEW ASHTON

city but I wish the people here would learn some manners on the Marts," said Jason Lake,

Lake still had time to ask an out-of-town couple and their two kids where they had been that day. "Gymnastics," they said. "We've seen volleyball, swimming and baseball," said one of the kids with a child's pride. "C'mon family," said dad. And off they went to the field hockey. Nothing, not ever Marta, was going to spoil it for

The other downer is an

equacy unavousable part of Olympic life. They call it Piss Row, a long line of 6th high blue plastic cubicles, 65 of them to be precise, on the hard houlder of a five-lane freeway flyover just outside the under ground station for the Georgia World Congress, a vast cavernous convention centre where six Olympic sports are being

It stinks so badly, even in the open air, that everybody walks in the fast lane past it and for once in steamy Olympic City, you are glad there is no breeze

But Olympic fans are facing up to their adversities with a smile. Indeed it is probably the fans who are living the Olymtion. "I don't really under-

nic dream more than most of the athletes—simply here to take part in any small way. They came, for instance, to fill the hall in their USA T-shirts and hats and bandanas for the men's team handball, a sport that has little American tradistand the rules, I guess, and I couldn't follow why the refere blew his whistle most of the time." said Matty Johnson. the had flown in from Los Angeles, "though I picked it up after a while. But I just wanted to be part of this, part of the Olympics, to say that I was there when it was in our

And they are. At the Alexander Coliseum venue for boxing the fighters mingle freely in the corridors signing auto-graphs and chatting to fans. Being part of it involves the forward planning of having bought a ticket, or a stroll down Peachtree Street, Atlanta's flashiest shopping avenue with a Macy's at one end and a Hard Rock and Planet Hollywood in the middle.

Peachtree has become a tout's paradise, with young men wandering the pavement, extended by barricades into the closed-off street, with fanned-out tickets ready to deal. And helping them out as best they can among predomi-nantly black scalpers, there are Brits wailing the touts' la-

ent — "Who needs tickets?" – in a familiar Cockney drawl Many of the tickets are being shoved out at face value which can be as little as \$11 for a baseball game, \$16 for the swimming — with the Dream Team and the gymnastics com-manding big bucks. Buying from touts is illegal near the stadium but it still happens, with anxious looking folk

standing silently, the only indication they need tickets being the number of fingers they are holding above their But the real Games for any

US fans is the struggle to ac-

quire "pins" — metal badges to you and I — the collection of

which is an apparent obses-sion among visitors here. They

can be bought at stalls for a few

dollars, but the metal lapel badges, deliberately produced in limited quantities by sponsors and companies in town for the Games, act as a secondary currency for favours done, for kindness and friendship shown. But, typically, there is a capitalist edge to it all too, with certain banned and seized pins that illegally use the Olympic rings fetching \$1,000 if you can find someone who has one. Maria and Siobhan, wait-

esses in Oslo's retaurant were offered \$70 for six of the sponsor and broadcaster pro fuced pins they had been given as tips in the past couple of weeks. They turned down the offer. "I don't collect them or nothing," said Maria, "but, I dunno, it just didn't seem right somehow.

It seems that even in the most commercial Olympics of all time, the fans at least cannot all be bought.

Bush war continues

R Christopher Bland's comment on the commissioning of World Service programmes from domestic BBC (Letters. July 24) displays a woeful lack of knowledge. In the 17 years I worked in Bush House, I learnt how very different the programmes are. World Service does not broadcast news and news programmes only. It broadcasts on agriculture, science, education and many

other topics. World Service producers, contributors and presenters are steeped in knowledge of the countries to which they are broadcasting. The output of scientific establishments in the Caribbean, Africa and Asia, and the effect of their work on the populations of those countries, are the bread and butter of World Service programmes. They are not for the domestic services and Broadcasting House staff cannot be expected to have this sort of knowledge. Laurence Spicer. 109 Trentham Street, London SW18 5DH.

AD Sir Christopher Bland been Chairman of the BBC for more than a few months, he would have known that the World Service managing director used to report directly to the director-general alongside colleagues from radio and television. Under the Birt diktat, he reports merely to the dep-uty-DG and is not even to be a member of the new, all-powerful executive committee.

Sadly, World Service's status within the BBC has deteriorated in recent years. Previous directors-general con-sulted Bush House management, valued its expertise and editorial advice. and gave strong support when funding was threatened.

Now, World Service is marcinalised as part of Worldwide. the BBC's commercial arm, and its managing director has no right to be consulted about a fundamental diminution in his responsibilities, merely to be given a casual 24 hours' notice. The board of governors are appointed to represent the public interest. They should think again, even if Messrs Bland and Birt refuse to do so. Christopher Bell. Sands, Shire Lane, Chorleywood, Herts WD3 5NH.

OHN Birt and Sir Christopher Bland have implied that opponents of the amalgamation of BBC World Service news with domestic BBC news are roman-

tic dinosaurs. I am a spokesman for one of the largest international hu-manitarian agencies. I speak to World Service reporters once or tvice a week about de-velopments in countries like Afghanistan, Iraq and Tajiki-stan. I speak to domestic BBC on similar subjects about once every two months. Domestic producers and reporters tend to be considerably less wellinformed, sometimes alarmingly so.

The opposition to the proposed changes arises, not from some retrograde resistance to change per se, but from this sense that something of unparalleled quality is about to be eopardised. It has nothing to do with romanticism or a generation gap — It is a question of geography. Neither Birt nor Bland has

ever lived or worked in one of the many parts of the world where the World Service really matters. If they had, they might understand that it is not an ingredient that can be mixed and matched with other bits of the BBC to produce a healthy corporate whole.

Several other BBC governors are similarly unqualified. Placing the future of the World Service in their hands is like entrusting a kidney transplant to a tree-surgeon. Rupert Colville. Rue de Rive 32, 1360 Nyon, Switzerland.

AN I really be the only Guardian reader who doesn't give a toss about the future of the World Service? Roy Goodwin. 24a Atheniay Road.



OUR article on gambling highlighting mixed mas-sages from the Home Office (Wheel of Fortune, July 24) should have highlighted the and "soft" forms of gambling The Home Office has a crude distinction, which states:

"Hard' gambling is a colloquialism for those forms of eambling which are considared to carry greater potential risks than others, usually be-cause of the high or rapid staking associated with them." Basically, this means that activities which allow the pos-

sibility of continuous gam-bling are the most addictioninducing. From the definition it can be concluded that "soft" earnbling refers to activities such as the National Lottery, football pools and bingo — and

that "hard" gambling include roulette, blackjack, fruit ma-chinas, horse/greyhound.racebetting, and instant scratchcards. There is much debate ibout the r quences of advertising "hard" orms like casino gambling yet it is clear that "hard" gam-bling is already being advertised in the form of

cratchcards. Showing the relationship beween high/rapid staking and addiction has great practical importance. Not only could po tentially dangerous forms of gambling be identified, but effective and selective legisla tion could be formulated. (Dr) Mark Griffiths. Sen Lecturer in Psychology. Nottingham Trent University. Burton Street, Nottingham NGI 4BU.



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للا		Exp. Date.	depte 1	than Transport. Martin Earl. 5: Leslie Road.



Life's tough at the top

MAY I congratulate you on David Hencke's report Leak shows tycoon eyed welfare offices, July 25)? The evidence of John Beckwith's inberest in the sale of DSS benefit offices may strengthen public curiosity to know the terms on which auch a sale might be conducted.

In the words of the Minister of State, Lord Mackay of Ardbrecknish, "our sites will be sold to somebody who will manage them and supply what we need back to us". This means the Secretary of State is contracting out resof benefits.

This, however, is a duty for which the Secretary of State remains accountable to Parliament. If Parlisment is to hold the Secretary of State to that duty, it must be able to satisfy itself that the contract for the proposed sale leaves him with sufficient powers to discharge that duty. That means that, all considerations of commercial confidentiality notwithstanding, Parliament must see the terms of the proposed contract before any sale is concluded.

It also means we need a government assurance that no tie will be completed before Parliament has had a chance to debate the proposed terms. Can Peter Lilley give us that Earl Russell. House of Lords. ondon SWIA DAA.

I FOR one, see no irony in the awarding of the first medals of the Olympics to shooting events (Letters, July 25). Quite the reverse: I see weapons being used for a peaceful, sporting purpose in just the same way as archery. fencing, the javelin and even the shot putt. After all, the modern Olympics are based on ancient games, the ethos of which was to keep young men proficient for war. 43 St Catherine Lincoln LN58LP.

COLLOWING the announcement that the production of the Queen's Christbetween the BBC and ITV. perhaps Buckingham Palace could take the next step and seek sponsorship, and bring two industries seeking a better public image with the slogan. For Queen and Marlboro Country. John Noon. 23 Leyton Road, Northam.

Southampton SO140PW. IF the Conservative Party loses the next election, will the Premier Club change its name to the Ex-Premier Club or will it call itself he Opposition Club. Will it still charge a minimum fee of £10,000 and, if so, will it still enjoy a thriving membership? HD Shah. 166 Kingshill Drive, Kenton, Harrow,

T is a sad but significant commentary on our prior-ities (Blair's team a match for Wilson golden age. July 26) that Overseas Development is considered less important than Transport. Martin Earl. 50 Leslie Road trated by the fact that both

Labour and equality

ERHAPS we should pre-serve Roy Hattersley for ever in a tub of lard, Potter-style, in order than he may lebate with successive abour leaderships the value of Labour's traditional aims and values in modern settings (Balance of power, July 25). He is absolutely right to stress the importance of a firm philosophy, so necessary to en-

sure that concepts of equality mean something real to those who are looking for a better It would seem that there are those within New Labour who now only look to election camis, reflixing to enter in

eal debate about the very difficult tasks Labour will face in power. For them. Hattersley's constituent is not a proble The constituent might not like or understand, New Labour but come the election, it is argued, he will have nowhere else to go; he will have to vote Labour. And they are probably right. But, after winning power.

Labour must move beyond simply the rhetoric of equality if it is to improve the standard of life for Hattersley's constitu ent and his family, and for countless others like them

throughout the country. Hattersley's constituent will surely be realistic enough to realise that materially things may not change that quickly for himself; but he will want real evidence that his children future because of Labour. It will not be easy and Hattersley is right to talk about "cour-age", for it will take real guts

to take on the entrenched positions of those in the establishment who adopt the language of equality without any real commitment to significant

change. Labour's members, and traditional supporters, need to be convinced that the guts are till really there; that we can make the really difficult deci-sions; that we can take on the vested interests that have benefitted so much during the Tory years. We cannot afford a 'New Labour: soft touch'

Modernisation is always a crucial process. But clear phiophy and core valu do need to remain at the heart of an evolving party. Andy Howell. Chair, Labour Reform, PO Box 5219. Birmingham B136DY.

ABOURS'S policies on

equality should be based on solid philosophical foundations, not shallow pragmatism argues Roy Hattersley. He follows R H Tawney in seeking to eliminate those inequalities which 'have their source, not in individual differences, but in society's organisation". But this is liberal reformist tosh. Individual differences do not emerge from a social vacuum but are nurtured and shaped by societal organisation — the housing, schooling, health, and family-care provided. No one should kid themselves that there is a quick and easy route to equality. I Morgan. 26 May Crescent, Lincoln LN1 1LP.

GRDON Brown wants to attack the root cases of our society's ills (Fighting talk from embattled Mr Brown, July 26). It is not enough to throw money at the poor. New abour's welfare to work policy is the fundamental remedy for poverty. It is difficult to seriously believe this, not less because of contemporary capi-

talism's incapacity to maintain an adequate supply of reasonably secure, reasonably well-paid jobs. His failure to address systematic failure is evidence elsewhere. Being "serious about tackling inequality", he says he intends to introduce a minimum wace: his "determ! nation to act has hardened as a

result of the recent explosion in low-paid work.' If he were more courageous he would admit that a mininum wage is not a fundamental remedy for inequality resulting from low pay. Low pay is a symptom, rather than a root cause; it reflects the pecularly British finance and corporate system's dominant concern with short-term profit maximisation at the expense of investment in production, research and development, and a well-trained, fairly rewarded and secured

J Wilfred Attenborough. 6 Spital Street. Lincoln LN1 3EG.

Letters to the Editor may be faxed on 0171 837 4530 or sent by post to 119 Farringdon Road, London EC1R 3ER, and by e-mail to letters a guardian.co.uk.

Talking Turkey on torture

HOUSANDS of political prisoners from Turkey Kurdish communities and po-litical prisoners in Turkish have been on hunger stirke prisons has intensified now for over 60 days (Six dead in Turkish jatl fast, July 26). We call on the British Government to launch a European They are protesting about the horrific treatment they are initiative to force Turkey to improve conditions in Turkey's prisons and to begin a real search for a peaceful soluforced to endure: torture restrictions on legal visits, chaining of prisoners during tion to the Kurdish question.

In December 1995, the European Parliament voted in favour of a European Customs Union with Turkey. There was a fear amongst the Kurdish community that were Turkey to be allowed to join the Customs Union, any leverage that the rest of Europe could exert on Turkey, to improve her human rights, would end. Sadly, this prophecy has been proved true. Atrocities against

exercise time, are some

Rough justice

N your report on the recom-mendation to prison governors to reduce prisoners to haif an hour a day July 23), you make it clear that the instructions are subject to the provision that an exception should be made for inmates held in segretation units as a punishment for bad behaviour. Can this report be

correct' Does this mean that defendants committed to prison by this and other courts for very bad criminal behaviour will have to behave very badly in prison if they wish to secure more than 30 minutes' exercise in the fresh air each day Alan J M Baldwin. Clerk to the Justices.

Petty Sessions, Hounslow.

Market Place Brentford, Middx TW8 8EN

Bringing families together in El Salvador

WE REJECT the unsub-stantiated insinuation in your article (El Salvador seeks ts lost children. July 20) that the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) had taken sides during the conflict in El Salvador. As our basic principles state, the ICRC maintains, in all situations where it is called upon to act, complete neutrality and total independence. The respect of these fundamental principles accounts for the success of our humanitarian operations throughout the world.
In El Salvador, all parties

(20vernment and FAILN) had

tion. This was vividly illus

sides asked us to act as neutral intermediary and facilitator in the peace-process. The ICRC fulfilled these functions discreetly and successfully.

Unless they do, conditions will deteriorate further and more

orisoners will die

Michael leantieff.

Helena Kennedy QC.

c/o 42 Museum Street,

London WC1A 1LY.

Michael Mansfield QC.

Sadiq Khan.

Sheri Laizer.

Mark Muller.

Gareth Pierce.

Fiona Ripley.

Secondly, the ICRC delegation in El Salvador conducted. inter alia, humanitarian activities in favour of children affected by the conflict, which were not discussed in your article. Thus, as of 1980, ICRC delegates visited and registered numerous children detained in either so-called "centers for minors", in military barracks or in various hospitals. In the large majority of cases, our tracing service was complete trust in our organisaable to re-establish contacts between the families The ICRC also undertook

research for children reported missing upon request from their families. According to ICRC standard procedure, a written record was kept on each child visited as well as on all tracing requests. We categorically state that the ICRC never participated in the forced separation of any child from its family. Today, the ICRC continues to act on :ul tracing requests addressed to it as part of our commitment to the victims of that conflict. Reto Meister. Deputy Delegate-General

Americas, International Committee of the Red Cross. 19 Avenue de la Paix. Ch 1202. Geneva.

To bring on the champions, first bring on the cash

READ with some cynicism of the plans for a sporting centre of excellence (Major lobs £300 million into reviving sport, July 25). Any increase in sports funding will have an impact but it is at the grassroots level that funding is most imodequate.

I am a local councillor in Manchester and have been involved for the last three months in assisting fund-raising for travel and related ex-penses for the NW Olympic Judo Squad to participate in Atlanta, in spite of lobbying at government level, no additional monles were forthcoming and most of the costs have been borne by the athletes, including two paralympians, themselves. The amount we wanted to raise was £10,000, a frop in the ocean compared to the millions made by the compercial sponsors and the Lot-

tery company, but all attempts at sponsorship failed. Sports organisation in this country is run by an elite set of amateurs and it is amazing that we win anything at all. In my view, if an athlete is selected to represent Britain. we should pay the costs associ ated with that representation both for training and the direct costs of participation. I am sure that the judges and

make up our minds whether we want winners and be pre-pared to pay for them. Val Stevens. 253 Ryebenk Road, Manchester M21 9L2. WHEN the National Lottery was presented to a fat-cat organisation, the Prime Minis

associated officials sent to At-

lanta have not paid their own expenses. We really must

The Guardian Saturday July 27 1996

ter promised that its money would never replace government funding. Grants were to be allocated by an independent body. What right has Mr Major to appropriate Lottery money for an extension of sports training and development? Whilst I approve the alm, I deplore the lan Mann.

2 Church Road, Fleet, Hants GU139RU.

MR MAJOR'S announce-ment is most welcome. Unfortunately, it is inevitable that most of us will be unable to watch graduates of this sporting academy perform at national level because Mr Murdoch will pay them small fortunes to appear exclusively on Sky TV. Tim Cohu. The Old Rectory, Greetham,

Jacqui Lait rel

male-heavy T

1027752

Coles T-

Interview,

Horncastle, Lines LN9 6NT.

unable to take any decision. We may then find the rest of the EU lengths in front, with

us are left to contemplate the

choppy waters in their wake.

ONALD Sassoon is wrong when he writes that poli-

the EU, unfortunately, it is the

other way around and always

has been. Walter Hallstein, the

first president of the EEC, de-clared in his book, United

Europe (1962): "We are not in

business to form a larger mar-

ket to make us richer, or a trad-

ing bloc to further our com-

ties has for too long taken second place to economics in

Mitchell.

Which way is Waterloo, anyway?

ONALD Sassoon (Leaving our Waterloo, July 23) suggests a European charter setting out the principles and ob jectives of the EU. While this might provide a welcome airine of issues of social and eco nomic policy, I am doubtful that any fruitful discussion on Europe can take place in the present climate of ignorance. We need instead an informa tion campaign, such as that launched last week by the German government on the subject of the single currency. The British government's contrast ing reticence in supplying us with basic factual information

on the long-term movement toward Emu has meant that only recently has the nation begun to wonder about its farreaching implications. Without a concerted cam-

paign, this country will remain Newbury RG14 1XA.

mercial interests . . we are in Sean McGlynn. 2a Charmwood Close,

A Country Diary

MACHYNLLETH: Lately, in

the diaries of a botanist who used to live in these parts, I came upon this entry for June 29, 1954: "At Pistyll Cain climbed down to the foot of the falls and found Tunbridge filmy-fern." Reading that, I wondered if this not very common fern still flourishes in the shadows of that gorge. So, next day I took myself off to Coed y Brenin, parked in one of the spots thoughtfully provided by Forest Enterprise and set off along a trail bove the River Mawddach babbling gently over its stones. It seemed strange to be searching in Wales for a forn with so Kentish a name but the botanical archives in sist that this little moss-like fern was indeed first discovered at Tunbridge. I walked on through miles of North American conffers until Wales began to assort itself in the form of sessile oaks. which had somehow escaped

***************** the destruction of decades ago. The very opposite of trees to rejoice a forester's heart, those oaks were stunted, misshapen, ity-clad and bristling with polypody ferns. But at least they were wild and natural, and so had every right to he there. When a waterfall whispered through the trees, a whisper that grew into a roar when I got into the sprayzone, where the marsh hawksbeard was beautiful in yellow flower on the wet rocks encircling the deep green pool into which the fall plunges. Though I fossicked around for an hour, I failed to find my fern. But why worry? ino my tern, but why worky it will be no hardship to try again in that lovely place. I was told there is gold in the river just there but I did not 20 panning for it. After all even if I had found any it yould have been trash compared with such a treasure as Tunbruige filmy-fern.
WILLIAM CONDRY

When Eden put the country in deep water

On the 40th anniversary of the Suez crisis, MICHAEL ADAMS, then our Middle East correspondent, looks back on the day Egypt's president gave the code word for his troops to seize control of the canal

drove from Cairo to Alexandria to hear a speech by Gamal Abdel Nasser, president of the Egyptian republic. It was the fourth anniversary of the day when King Farouk left Egypt, ousted by the revolutionary group of young officers among whom Nasser had been the moving spirit.

Nasser took everyone by surprise when he appounced the witionalisation of the Store Canal Company. To understand how complete the surprise was you have to recall the circumstances and the relative positions of Britain and Egypt 40

Britain was still regarded as a great power, with extensive international commitments, particularly in the Middle East,

where the Suoz Canal was considered almost as vital a part of our national lines of communication as the English channel. And in charge in Downing Street was Sir Anthony Eden, the ac-knowledged expert in world affairs.

Egypt, by contrast, was a country only recently emancing from the status of a virtual colony, ruled by a government as inexne rienced as its leader, the first truly indepen

dent ruler of Egypt sinc= the Pharaohs. When Nasser ap-peared to snatch the Suez Canal from Eden's control (from Eden's point of view) it was as though Jones minor in the third form had cocked a

snook at the headmaster. The way Nasser did it was characteristic of his technique as a conspirator. He posted a trusted associate named Mahmud Yunis down at the canal his disposal and with orders to on the radio. When he heard a certain password, he was to order the police to take control of all the installations of the Anglo-French Suez Canal to Port Sald.

Back in Alexandria, where I was seated within 20 feet of him, Nasser had been speaking for more than two hours and the crowd was getting restless He had talked about the high dam, made some jokes about the Americans and now he was going on about the Suez Canal; but what had the canal got to do with the matter in hand, people wondered? So when he told us that the canal had been designed by a Frenchman named de Lesseps, pronouncing the name very clearly and repeating it, we paid little attention. But that was the password Mahmud Yunis was waiting for and by the time Nasser let the rest of us into the secret, by

For the moment, though, he

week calling for "decisive action" to "resist the aggressor", to the liberal News Chronicle ("the government will be fully justified in taking retalizators action" and the

announcing triumphantly that he was nationalising the canal Discretion is the calcium in Whips' bones and, unable to company and would use the profits from the canal to build the high dam, the takeover was Now it was Eden's turn to be furious and within a comple of hours of hearing the news from Cairo, he was presiding over a meeting of the joint chiefs of staff at Number 10 and was telling them to go away and pre-pare a plan for a military inva-

sion of Egypt to make Nas "disgorge". It was to be three months before such a plan neglected them since I was could be put into effect and dur-ing those months, opinion in the country became increasingly divided over the right course of action to deal with what Eden insisted was a dangerous breach of international law and a threat to Britain's much? "Til just say a signifi-

cant drop."

Can she manage on an MP's had the country with him. The day after the nationalisation, the Labour leader, Hugh Gaitskell, reflecting the strong pro-Israeli sentiment which then dominated the Labour party, gave Eden his support against "this high-handed and totally unjustifiable step by the Egyptian government". With a single exception, the daily nen with wives and children. £43,000 is in any form gener-ous. I think £65,000 is about press embarked on an orgy of tub-thumping, from the Times which carried four leading articles during the following

right and you need a bigger office allowance too." Asked to fill in a recent survey, Lait discovered ahe spent around 85 hours a week working away in her various offices.
Can she survive like Margaret
Thatcher, on just four hours'
sleep a night? "I wake up at
7am whatever time I go to

Labour Daily Herald ("No more Hitlers"). And does she sleep well?
"One of the great things about doing the rounds of fêtes is

treaty undertaking or had put himself in the wrong by inter-fering with the free passage of ships through the canal, our government should keep in

nind two central facts. First, that provided we could continue to use the canal without interruption, it mattered little who controlled it, especially since the canal was due to revert to Egyptian ownership anyway in 1968. And second, that to take military action against Egypt would be both wrong and misguided, since its likely result would be to cause the canal to be closed, thus defeating our central interest, which was to keep it

During the next three



When Nasser (left) appeared to snatch Suez from Eden's control, it was as though Jones minor had cocked a snook at the headmaster

> their conflicting positions. The crucial question was whether Nasser would succeed in keep ing the canal traffic flowing de spite all the obstacles which the old Suez Canal Company put in his way. Disappointand his opposite number, Guy Mollet, were poised to seize on any opportunity to discredit him, Nasser never put a foot wrong. He promised, and duly paid, proper compensation for the old company's assets, he allowed shipowners to go on paying their canal dues to the

company's account in Paris, pending an agreed settlement. He put no pressure on the European pilots when the com neiger of most benefore visit eaving Egypt with what the

"experts" said would be the im-possible task of running the ca-

nal without them. The climax of this battle of wills came in the middle of September and I was able to witness it at close quarters when I managed, after a battle lasting half the night, to get myself on to an Italian tanker in the first con voy to pass through the canal after the withdrawal of the British and French pilots. By the time I left the ship at Suez after an uneventful journey be side its Egyptian pilot, I could see for myself that the battle was won.

Perhaps it was too much by then to expect that Eden and Mollet would ackowledge the fact. Their personal prestige was in the balance against Nas-ser's and opinion in both countries was sharply and bitterly divided between those who wanted to "teach Nasser a son" and those of us who could see that force would land us in a situation from which it would be difficult to extricate

The end was tragic, though not so tragic as it would have been had the assault on Egypt which the British and French aunched in collusion with the

Israelis not been stopped by President Eisenhower. The French were all for going on and presumably would have been ready to occupy Egypt, like Napoleon earlier. But the British government lost its nerve and called off the invasion almost as soon as it had begun. A face-saving ar-

rangement was de vised whereby a UN force was brought in to replace the British and French, and Eisenhower ordered the Israelis to get back behind their own border — the only time a US president has acted to restrain Israeli exwas that, except of course that the canal was closed, as the

Manchester Guard ian had warned that it would be if the European governments went to war with Egypt As for as Britain was concerned, it was a humiliating conclusion to the crisis and it ignalled the end of Britain's hold on the Middle East. if it had be

dening experience since, for the first time in my life, I had felt ashamed of my own government. On the other hand, there was the satisfaction of working for a paper that had come through a prolonged challenge with flying colours. And there was also the fact that once the canal was open again (it took four months to clear the block-ships) we found that Britain's relationship with the Arab world was a better and a more realistic one than it had been before the Suez crisis. But it had been a near thing.



Jaqui Lait . . . 'I have to live off my husband, bless him. I don't think I could manage without him

The right woman to whip her men into shape

Jacqui Lait relishes her new career in the male-heavy Tory Whips' Office, but she'll still find time for a little, you know, cooking



OW can I say this without sounding offensive, without at the very least sounding politi-cally incorrect? But when you meet her, it sort of makes sense that Jacqui Lait was the first one to break the mould. Last Wednesday afternoon Lait made political history when it was announced that

she was to be the first woman MP to join the Tory Whips' Office — a place where testos-terone has dominated proceed ings for 160 years and even Margaret Thatcher, at the height of her prime-ministe-

rial powers, was known to shift uncomfortably. But then again . . . Jacqui. Lait is one of the boys. Even as she plunges the cafetiere in the House of Commons bar, I sense she would rather be puffing on a cheroot and mouthing silent smoke rings or propping up the bar at Ronnie Scott's with Ken Clarke. Their similarities are striking, they're both pro-Europe, both informal, fun and unpretentious. They could

be brothers. Then again it's just possible that in voting for her to join their select band, the Whips may have made the most terrible mistake. They may simply not have realised that Jacqui Lait is female. As one retiring MP and former Whip remarked as he passed her in the corridor: "I always swore that the day a woman was allowed into the Whips' office I would burn my tie in the Palace Yard in protest. But I'am so delighted that it's you." The first thing to hit you is

oher begins his manoeuvres on the terrace. There is not ven a hand through the short hair which, she announces in a sensible bark, she has had cut "by Robert at the Berkeley every three weeks for the past

22 years". The mouth has no history of

lipstick, the eyes no memory of mascara. The unflattering stri-pey dress reminds one of Matron's uniform in Carry On Doctor. All that's missing is the little white cap. Of course, none of this eflects on her ability as an MP, which her colleagues claim to be considerable. And certainly the Whips' Office is seen as the nursery for aspir ing ministers —one third of the present Cabinet have don time with Westminister's Secret Service. But it's unusual to meet a female member from any party these days who is not shouldering a determined red jacket or, at the very least, shaking a shiny Folletes-

delightfully free from the con-straints of juggling childcare with appalling Commons' hours. "I've been married 22 years, have no children and I have very little maternal instinct!" She laughs uproariously as she announces these facts. "We decided we had *other* things to

que bob. It is also unusual to

find a married female MP so

I wonder if she and her hus-band Peter ("he has several company directorships") have ever regretted this decision?
"Oh no," she remarks firmly.
"Career has always been the most important thing. I've wanted to be an MP right from the age of eight when my Godnother Pat Hornsby-Smith [then Tory MP for Chiselurst] took me round this place! It seemed a very accept-

able place to work." But politics is such a gamble, doesn't she worry about losing power or favour overnight? "No. never have done." Then she sits back and thumps herself across the chest in

the complete lack of vanity, apparent as soon as the photograshe cries so quickly that I jump. "It's so deeply satisfying being here! It's still a privilege, it still grabs you in the gut and you think 'Oh God it's wonder ful!' There's just something about it that's very, very

satisfying." It seems pointless to ask if she's anxious about being the first woman whip? "Oh I'm used to bossing boys around," she laughs, explaining that her mother ran the family business in Scotland after her father died when Jacqui was 12. Educated at Paisley Grammar then Strathclyde University, where she excelled in

There are different ways of being tough. Some respond to hard man soft man, some to persuasion,

I've got broad shoulders

ejecting "drunken Scots from the bar", Lait has "always vorked with men. And I've never found it a problem. "It's very interesting, when we came in 1992, there were six Conservative women and 23 Labour women. It seemed to me clear that the Conservative women settled in very easily whereas you would see the Labour women caucusing together, using the women as

and a thick skin'

in which case why are Conservative selection panels so resistant to female candidates? "It's a generational thing. A lot of people involved in the se tion process aren't used to seeing women in authority. Personally, I've come across very little overi sexual discrimina-

Even so, she did have to iump through "a lot" of selection panel hoops before she

was eventually chosen for her safe seat of Hastings and Rye. "Like a lot of women I used to say 'Bloody selection panels!' But soberer and wiser people used to say 'It's chemistry. If it think women do tend to work doesn't work it doesn't work, if they don't like you or you don't ike them it won't work.' Since I got selected, well, I now sub-scribe to the chemistry theory.

ľ really do." But the chemistry of the Whips' office is altogether more explosive. As Michael Cockerell's splendid BBC2 doc-umentary on the Whips dis-closed last year, the Chief Whip keeps a Black Book listing each MP's misdemeanors and the late David Lightbown

was known to make MPs weep Has she seen the black book vet? She laughs loudly and refuses to comment. Will she en joy the bullying, cajoling and snooping that makes up the job description?

"There are differ ent ways of being tough," she says cheerily. "Some hard man soft man, some to persuasion, others like to be flattered. I've got broad shoulders and a thick skin." others like to be flattered. But is she persua-

sive? "Tve never

She did, however, once work for the Government Information Service and she ran her own lobbying consultancy for eight years before entering In Cockerell's documentary,

Tim Fortescue, a whip from 1970-73, recalls keeping an ear open for MPs' problems "be it debt or a scandal involving small boys". Given the recent tally, does Lait think Tories are more prone to affairs than "No. We've seen a media determined to expose one par ty's problems, that's all."

Labour Party is equally keen on family values these days," she retorts tartly.

Why do male MPs appear to have relatively more affairs than female MPs? "Women are too busy doing the job. Most of us women MPs get a reputa-

I murmur something about Back to Basics. "Well the

Dealing with 45 letters a day is Are female MPs more concientious than men? "Yes, I

In that case shouldn't the Tory Party encourage more women MPs? "It's up to the party, you can't insist on it. I'm completely against quotas and women on shortlists. If you're imposed, you're never going to be happy.

talk about policy, Lait is already uncontrollably discreet. Who, I ask, are her friends among MPs? "Oh it's invidious to pick any out." Well who does she socialise with? "Oh this is a social place you know but we don't go to the cinema and theatre together." Well what about outside the House, who are her non-politi-cal friends? "Oh we've rather

A little later she mentions one of her interests is cooking. What sort of cooking? "Oh just you know, cooking."

Did she take a pay cut to become an MP? "Yes." How

salary? "I have to live off my husband, bless htm. I don't think I could manage without him. I feel very sorry for single people doing it, for married Children are an expense no matter how you look at it. I don't know how they managed on \$34,000 and I don't think

The exception was the Man-chester Guardian, which observed mildly that "it would be a mistake either to lose our there's always bookstalls, so I buy a lot of 10p thrillers. I read heads with vexation over Colomyself to sleep. And then there are always those useful two nel Nasser's latest move or to underestimate its adroitness hours between 2am and 4am, when you really have time to and went on to say that until it could be proved that Nasser had broken some specific think about problems . . .

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Mess upon mess

OOTLESSNESS and Anglo-American culing are the constant themes of the Chicagoan dra-matist, Richard Nelson. And they combine with fair suc-cess in The General from America at The Swan, Strat-

Nelson deals with Benedict Arnold who, during the War of Independence, became the most famous traitor in American history. On one level, his play is a history lesson. We see Arnold, who has been an heroic soldier, facing accusa-tions in 1780 from the Pennyslvania politicians that he has been guilty of wartime profiteering George Washington, his long-time backer, finds him partially guilty and igno-miniously packs him off to command the fort at West Point. Arnold hands the Brit-ish plans of attack and it is only their incompetence that prevents them capturing the fort and Washington himself.

nereby winning the war. Nelson tells a good story well. But the intriguing ques-tion is why Arnold did it, and here Nelson implies that Arnold was a corrupt money-grubber, that like Washington he had a genuine sense of grievance against meddling politicians and that he was torn between a love of American landscape and a fondness for British "culture". Maybe there never is a single motive for treason, but in supplying so many answers Nelson

leaves us puzzled as to the source of Armold's treachery. Where the play scores is in its ironic portrayal of national incomprehension. The Brits see America as a barbarous god-forsaken colony, while the Americans covertly ad-mire British civilisation.

The best scenes expose the hollowness of British claims to superiority. A series of poetic tableaux in the British officers' club in New York are largely an excuse for a glorified striptesse. And Sir Henry Clinton, the Commander-in-Chief, fatally entrusts negotiations with Arnold to a pea-cocking Major with whom he is infatuated. It may be an exaggeration to suggest Britain lost the American colonies be cause of a homosexual passion but the point about the fallibility of the sentleman-

code comes sharply across. Howard Davies's full-bloodedly theatrical production captures the contrast between American confusion and British complacency. James Laurenson also suggests that Arnold's bluster conceals a rootless uncertainty and there Rachel Joyce as his devoted sister. Corin Redgrave as a morally testing Washington and John Woodvine as a serenely incompetent Clinton. It is not vintage Nelson, but it's an entertaining play that exposes the origins of a special relationship founded on



'Small-minded': Philistines'. The burghers of Aldeburgh are under attack for refusing Benjamin Britten a statue. JOHN VIDAL comes to their aid



The rise and fall of the statue

has found a cracking way to com-memorate its culture in public places. Reasoning that public art is for everyone and every one travels by car, the Arab sheikdom has turned its roundabouts and road junctions into huge art installations celebrating domestic Omani life. The amazed vistor whizzes round 150 foot high teapots and incense burners the size of office blocks. It's art to give directions by

("first left at the kettle, right at the saucepan, straight past the dagger..."), to be seen momentarily through a cer window and to be appreciated best at night when more than 150 million fairy lights can line fident if literal in form, Onmam's statuary celebrates Omani life past and present. It seems popular, at least with

Alas poor Aldeburgh. The modest fishing town that is also a classical music shrine for a few weeks each year has outraged sesthetes by turning down a small statue of Benjamin Britten. Believing the town full of "small minded abowitten and "philistines" these metropolitan moralisers believe Aldeburghians should gaze happily on Britten's mage and reflect on his
works. The massage — admire,
Aldeburgh, know what's good
for you — proved too much.
Thanks, we do like Mr B, but

Larger than life

A fan's guide to public statues

we've just shalled out for a playground and we'd prefer a bird bath, seems a perfectly inderstandable reaction.

But the powerful classical music lobby that promoted the Britten statue was acting as central and local authorities have done for decades. In the name of commemorating place and person, these commissioners of icons and relics have dumped without any consulta-tion the most terrible bric à hrac on the people who they have governed.

Statuary has rightly got it-self a bad name in Britain. Those we raise on plinths tend to be the psychologically im-jured — men of war, politicians, jingoistic statesmen and those who have made others' lives a misery.

A walk around many cities

is a desultory experience. If we can be known by the images we erect of ourselves, it seems we are obsessed by male power, combat and death. A walk sround Whitehall and Central London is intimidating look, here's a man who killed thousands of Indians, another who suppressed the East, who bombed Germans, who raized South America, who slaughtered

uropeans . . . Authoritative men stare down on us in apperent disapproval of our times. And whereas the men whom we cal abrate have real names, the female form is good only to represent the abstract and symbolic. Peace, Liberty, Justice.

Valour, Grace, Hope, There's Boadices on the embankment or Lady Godiva in Coventry. but when it comes down to it. the latter is a male frattry while the former is just an-other calebration of the war-

rior race.
Britten stood a good chance of being immortalised. He was male and dead. Today, the chances of a statue on rating someone alive is small. Wolverhampton this week unveiled a pin-high image of Nelson Maudela (there is a full size statue on the South bank, too); there are Beatles in Livergel but for others. In pool but few others. In a strange reversal of reality, the quick are considered too em-phemeral for our age. Instead we a death cult, with ancestor worship firmly linked to heri-

tage rather than to art.
It's a far cry from self-confident Georgian or Victorian times when Britain celebrated life in its statues. Then every two-hit civic mayor had himself cast in full regalia, and every viceroy, consul and empire builder posed as a protector, educator or bureaucrat. A grateful nation (it was always said) regularly raised money to erect images of heroes or nobility just back from wars or

colonial adventures.

The decline of public repreentational art could be because we have so little pride in how we are living or our position in the world. Compared with Victorian or Edwardian times these are dog

days for British figurative statue makers. What are we meant to be celebrating?, asks Sophie Dickens, a sculptor. Religion, she says, is out, poli-tics has been debased, and we have a weak royal family and nobility. The cult of the person is all but finished.

Fashions change. We no longer celebrate war leaders with such vigour, but why not erect statues to today's heroes portsmen actors, rock stars are paid fortunes; their fac ere instantly recognised. They may be honoured by the state, but they are less likely to be carved in stone than cast in wax at Madame Tussaud's. And then when they are no longer on the box, they are melted down. It is as if we say "You shall have everything, except the blessing of the fluure".

We may not take the long view any more, but there are practical reasons, too, for not celebrating the living. Status are almost always contentious. "If they put up a statue of Thatcher, it would be toppled or defaced in 10 minutes," said one sculptor yesterday. How did he know? "Because I would do it myself". Artists and creative people

are not denied statuedom, though. There are legious of statue to have been erected by public subscription since Vic-Shakespeares and Burns; fhere's Conan Doyle, Rupert Brooke, Walter Scott, Kath-leen Ferrier, Dylan Thomas, Chartie Chaplin, Tony Hanorian thnes. It's in Glasgow. Elsewhere there are Peter Pan and Just William. These tribntes to fictional characters the equivalent to putting up a cock is in Birmingham (no one huge Peter Grimes in Aldeburgh — could be seen as a far

Bed Heig's cartoon character Lobey Dosser (top left) — the enty statue to have been erected by public susbscription since

rism times; Tony Hancock (top right). These are three of

ste ametad to popular cultural figures ra

vented him at first). fictional heroes and and als are occasionally raised but not with such gusto as on the Continent, where animals mythological creatures and fictional characters abound One exception is Bud Neill's cartoon character Lobey Dosser, said to be the only

company formed by the classi

cal video division of the Japanese Pioneer corporation to take options on ballet and

W Statuse of the nation . . . John Le

recause of union agreements We've flagged to the opera

house that in the current cli-mate we do not feel this situa-

more resonant way of recalling an artist than his own statue

would be. But there is another

way the good people of Aldeburgh could ensure that Brit-

ten's name lived in its chil-

dren's mouths. They could always call their playground

tion can continue, but any so-lution will be long term." Dennis Marks ran the BBC music department for seven rears, and is now leeling the hroadcasting pinch as Genera Manager at English National

Without national TV coverage, he says, ENO's catchment area is defined by the M25. "There is absolutely no doubt that the one way to make sure you have vigorous audiences for arts on TV is to have public service commitments, because he more you give people the

"There's only one thing that makes public service broadcasting work, and that's an act of political will."

on Channel 4 tonight at 6.25pm.

The Guardian Sacurday July 27 1996 EastEnders go to war

Television

Stuart Jeffries

OW ALL of Walford is on fire, and silken dalliance in the ward-robe lies. Know what I mean? After the flared horror of Nigel's seventies revival disco earlier in the week, East-Enders (BBC1) awoke to find that developers were planning to build luxury flats over the playground. Before you could say 'Til have have a pound of plums, Mark," there was a riot outside the Vic in protest.

It was a popular revolt more comprehensible and sympa-thetic than Henry V's expansionist French campaign, recalled by Professor Richard Holmes in the first episode of War Walks (BBC2). Cry "God for Cindy, decent leisure facili-ties, and Albert Square!" EastEnders went once more

unto the breach, filling up the chedules with an extra fourth episode. Despite some unspeak ahly dreary sub-plots during the week, it was worth the wait for the opportunistic play-ground storyline to come to a rolling boil.

Opportunistic because it was cunningly timed to coincide with the school holidays. What could make viewing parents empathise more deeply with thair Albert Square counter-parts than seeing the only safe place in the area for children to play fenced off for redevelop-ment as the seven-week holiday from hell begins? Walford's women stood on

one side of the fence, bawling at some suit from the developers on the other. He had a mobile phone; he was history. Glimpsed through the fence, the women looked just as menacing as the Cuban volleyball mam seen through the net by the opposing team, but not, you

know, quite as leggy.
"This wouldn't happen in Hampstead," yelled one pro-tester, which is true, but only

because the Heath and Old Hampstead Society would have taken action to ensure that the developers could not fence off the playground while the land still belonged to the council. And because the boys and girls of Hampstead don't need play-grounds. They have croquet lawns the size of Albert Square, and gardens the size of Walford. They do.

The riot was delightfully cho-reographed. Pauline handed Cindy an iron bar to smash up the developer's car. Better, there was a grim comedy of wrongful arrests, as the police

wrongful arrests, as the police took Nigel downtown for standing feet planted with mouth in fly catching gape.

The only thing missing was the two-fingered salute, that defiant gesture introduced into English vernacular by the long-bownen at Agincourt. Historians claim that this was to scare ans claim that this was to scare French knights, but really it was to protest against their leader's campaign strategy. Henry V chose to march from Harfleur to Calais, through water meadows and wide rivers, perversely skirting the best wine-growing regions. He may have been an inspirational warrior, but he was no Jancis Robinson. "Many saw this as a danger-

ous pub crawl rather than a crusade," said Professor Holmes. French armies and inperesting chaeses lurked along their path, but it wasn't all Camembert and Calvados. With the culinary ineptitude typical of Englishmen abroad, nany succumbed to dysentery after eating sectood from Har-fleur's marshes which doubled as the town's sewers.

War Walks proved some thing of a misnomer, since the Professor drove an N-reg Ford along the route marched by the rack and Rouen of Henry's sick and starving army. Holmes's exposition of the battle, too, was disappointing he fell back on footage from Kenneth Branagh's film of Henry V, about as reliable a guide to the battle as ping English arrows.

Reviews

POP

Bryan Adams Huddersfield

FYOU'VE ever wondered why anyone goes to Bryan Adams's concerts, Hudders-field blonde Stella explained all: "You know all the songs she cooed. "Who wants to see something where it's all new?" Her pal, Paul (grey T-shirt, black jeans, popping Paracetamol) had his own theory. "It's a huge event in a small town." Helpfully, Bryan Adams (firebucket voice, T shirt, black Jeans) didn't dis-appoint either, churning out a appoint entitler, critical in this succession of gargantuan hits for his McAlpine Stadium fans; Big Rock with big riffs, big choruses, drumbeats like nuclear explosions and more crowd participation than Nuremburg. Everywhere you looked there were people reliving their youth. "I wanna be 18 'til I die," sang a crinkly Adams, onstage, while off it 28,000 voices yelled along with

Everywhere We Go (The Kids Wanna Rock), nobody seem-ing to notice that these "kids" were over 30.

But it was difficult not to be rocked, somewhere, by the Ne-anderthal straightforwardness of it all. Adams plays a regular bloke's music, high on nostalgia, hope, angst, flatuence and between-sones inforever have new meaning). And if he does border on sexism now and again ("Are you old enough?", he asked a girl be invited onstage, "To drink, I mean. Whoops!"), don't all regular blokes? Beneath it all, though, he has a heart of gold. We know this because Bryan came on all emotional on us. He told us Everybody Needs Somebody, it Cut Like A Knife, how he'd Never Really Loved A Woman but that verything he does, he does it for us, and we resolved to throw even more of our money at him, in the hope that Bryan's heart may one day go platinum

Dave Simpson

JAZZ

Mike Westbrook Rhythmic, London

OHN Lennon would un-doubtedly have taken to Mike Westbrook's explosive account of the Beatles last real record. He would have recognised a fellow traveller in the bandleader, who savours the songs but relaunches them on unpredictable trajectories that take them through free jazz, vaudeville, pastiche . . .

Playing with an octet in Islington this week as part of a European tour, Westbrook plays the Abbey Road music in the order it appears on the original, and calls it Off Abbey Road. The opening Come Together was muddy, but new singer John Winfield (a straighter and less experimen tal but appropriately soulful substitute for the great Phil Minton) and Westbrook stlenced the audience with a mix of all-but-whispered in-tensity and limpid, Gershwinlike piano. Octopus's Garden followed a drifting, reflective piano interlude (Kate Westbrook unfurling the song in a breathy, Monroe-like flutter), and they wound up the first half (with I Want You) first as a splintering blues guitar bash from Brian Godding capped by a single haunting clarinet note from Peter Whyman. Westbrook drily informed the audience that it could bear

the rest of the clarinet solo after the break, but he hardly prepared it for Whyman's as-tonishing improvisation. This underrated clarinettist and saxophonist sometimes sounds like a classical player, but he mingles it with layers of repeated hooting sounds, clipped squeals, circularbreathing marathons, dissonances, overtones and counter-melodies drawn from the remarkable laboratory or Evan Parker. This long episode built up a tension that made the final arrival of Here Comes The Sun nothing short of an ecstatic release.

John Fordhom

police force also in Leeds Richerd Cobden - anti-com laws Kathleen Ferrier - opera singer S PRESENTATION OF THE STATE OF oseph Priestley -Samuel Johnson misunderstanding. in rep at The Swan, Stratford-

Earl Grey - of tea fame

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ADAM SWEETING on testing times for televised opera

The price is wrong

tion as the next stop on the Ascot-Henley Vimbledon social ci cuit. Glyndebourne deserves credit for its policy of staging challenging operas from way beyond the well-trampled middle of the road. This season it has presented both Handel's Theodora (in a controversia) production by Peter Sellars) and Alban Berg's intrinsically

controversial Lulu. The Sun newspaper likes to complain that opera is an elitist pastime enjoyed only by "fathum snobs", but thanks to Channel 4's continuing relationship with Glynde

both pieces for themselves. Theodora was broadcast on lune 15, while Berg's dark saga of sex, degradation and death will be shown tonight. The original three-year col-

aboration between Channel 4 and Glyndebourne began with a broadcast of The Marriage Of Figaro in 1994, and in May a ew agreement was signed which will run until 1999. For anybody concerned about TV arts coverage, this is excellent news. Even so, it's difficult no to see it as a rare exception to a generally pessimistic trend. Opera is an expensive and unwieldy form. Try putting it on

the album

television, and you're asking for trouble: star opera singers are growing ever more expensive, their agents and managers don't hesitate to squeeze out an extra ounce of flesh on pehalf of their clients, while filming and recording opera is a lengthy and labour-intensive

The sprawling size of most operas is enough to send TV chedulers scurrying to the ratings safety of a 30-minute soap. Even ballet and modern dance are liable to surpass opera in ratings terms, not least because they tend to be shorter and thus more easily

"Our budgets are remaining static while the costs are going up," says Avril McRory, BBC2's head of music proto explain to artists that nobody is making money on this." The costs of mounting a television production of, for instance, a substantial Verdi pera can reach £500,000. That was roughly the figure

required to mount BBC2's cele braied transmission of Verdi': La Traviata in December 1994 when network controller Michael Jackson cleared his schedules to accommodate Co vent Garden's hit production, with Sir Georg Solta conduct-ing Romanian soprano Angela Gheorghiu. The BBC scored a ratings triumph with one-and a half million viewers.

A number of factors combined to make the broadcast possible. The BBC were able to strike a co-production deal with Covent Garden Pioneer, a

opera productions at Covent Garden. Their input slashed the BBC's costs to around £300.900. Meanwhile, of the principal performers, only Solti was signed to a major re cord company, Decca, so com dex contractual problems did The broadcast lit a rocket under Gheorghiu's career, and BBC / Pioneer Traviata on

video, the naive observer night have expected the BBC to have reaped some profits.
"This is a very sore subject," McRory winces. "The BBC don't retain any rights at all. We put a huge amount of money into these productions and we get one UK trans-mission. This is not necessar-

ily because our co-producers are nasty people, it's primarily

Alban Berg's Lulu will broadcast

more they want

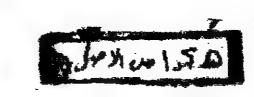
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Master blaster in the shooting gallery

The critic DAVID SYLVESTER has taken on the biggest names in modern art for nigh-on 50 years. in these extracts from a new book of key essays he writes of his battles with Berger and attempts to pin down Picasso



Illustration by GEOFF GRANDFIELD

that there was a igurative painte working in England. I had been admiring and writing about Francis Bacon's School", which included work for three or four years but always perceiving it as a form of Expressionism. Sud-denly, looking at a recent English painters such as image of an ectoplasmic head with an open mouth and an ear that seemed attached by a cord to the ceiling, I recognised that it was a painting. sionistic painters whose not a cry of pain. In the search for figurative the term "Kitchen Sink art that was new and grand it

fused by all the retrogressive attempts which a host of painters and sculptors everywhere were making "to go back to the figure". Such efforts were insistently promoted by the most influential critic on the scene, John Serger. In the catalogue of a show

called Looking Forward which he curated in 1952, he wrote: "I am convinced . . . that the future development of painting will be towards realism." This, he explained, did not mean "looking backwards", reviving "an academic naturalism, based on curiosity", but a realism based on the painter's ability to identify himself with his subject". Ten years later, writing not

of mere hopes but of achieve-ment, he said: "Since the last war two painters have furthered the main European tradition. When the history of art of our period is written, these two are bound to feature as key figures. Others will be seen as important experimentalists, witnesses of our time, significant spellbinders; but these two will join the mainstream. I am convinced of it. They are Nicolas de Staël and

It was not surprising that Berger failed to recognise the value of Bacon: he was too much of a boy scout not to see Bacon as a monster of depravity. But it is difficult to forgive his dismissal of Giacometti at the time of the 1995 retrospective in London. Years later Berger beat his breast for that but someone with the stance of a prophet has to be on the right side when the battle is at

its height Happily, Berger decided to continue his career as a fiction writer through the medium of the novel. But at the time he was writing criticism he was a serious distraction, because his rhetorical skills and his performing skills on TV won considerable support, financial as well as moral, for inferior artists. His dominance was all the more dispiriting in that there were seven or eight excellent London critics who were interpreting matters in a less simplified and schema-

The poistest shot I fired in the campaign against the Berger line was an article satirically entitled "The Kitchen published in Encoun ter for December 1954. This oostulated a "Kitchen Sink French painters such as Re beyrolle and Minaux as well a Bratby and Jack Smith, and concluded: "It is as well to remember that the gravevard of artistic reputations is littered with the ruins of expres youthful outpourings once ook the world by storm." But School" was hijacked by cultural journalists to serve as a lesignation for a supposed movement that encompasse novelists and dramatists. A more positive contribution to the campaign was a

It was not surprising that Berger failed to recognise the value of Bacon: he was too much of a boy scout not to see him as a monster of depravity

lecture called "Towards a

New Realism", which I first gave at the Royal College of Art in 1951. Here I argued the desirability of a new art concerned with appearance and insisted that, if there was to be such an art, it would have to reflect the fact that modern man "conceives of reality as ideas that occur in the consciousness of each "Jaubividual"

I went on: "The private and subjective character of mod-ern art clearly accords with this conception of reality. Thus Cubism does not represent objects but a series of per ceptions of an object, a system of aspects. Thus Paul Klee oes not represent a scene but an adventure, a succession of experiences: his pictures are maps of man's subjective world. And for the artist want-ing to create not merely a map but an image of the world, it must still, to be valid now, be about that subjective world."

As paradigms of such an art I showed slides of sculpture and paintings by Giacometti and paintings by Bacon. During the first half of the 1950s my lecturing and writing on contemporary art was dominated by these two figures. There was other figurative art being produced in England that moved me. There was Stanley Spencer above all, who as a man as well as an artist seemed to me a genius. There were William Coldstream and Lucian Freud, but

enough in style to be relevant to the future of painting. However, in the Listener for 12 January 1966 I was able to say that Frank Auerbach's exhibition at the Beaux-Arts Gallery "seems to me the mos

exciting and impressive first one-man show by an English painter since Francis Bacon's in 1949 . . . These paintings reveal the qualities that make for greatness in a painter fearlessness; a profound originality; a total absorption in what obsesses him; and, above all, a certain authority and gravity in his forms and olours...

It was not until many years later that I realised that Auereach's friend Leon Kossoff, who was working along similar lines, was also an artist of uence. Both had studied devotedly under David Bomberg, an outstand-

ing painter from 1913 on, but a difficult man whom the art world had idly allowed to slide into obscurity. Following his death in dire poverty in 1967, an Arts Council memorial exhibi tion a year later renewed his fame. The review I wrote expressed doubt that we had seen paintings by a Brit-ish artist of this cen

tury finer than the finest of those in this exhibition. except for some by Sickert

What, then, was I now making of Bacon? Earlier that year, 1958, his new paintings had seemed so shockingly bad that I felt totally disillusioned about him. Of course it was childleh to let that disillusion spread to everything he had done before, but at that moment and for nearly four years afterwards I felt his work to be incomprehensible and alienating: it seemed to me that it had come illustrational, caricatural monstrous. For several years I

remained silent about all of the work, sometimes studiously silent, as when I wrote in 1960 and again in early 1962 that there were currently three artists under 60 who were creating great images of the human figure, namely, Giacometti, de Kooning and Dubuffet, or as when I wrote in 1961 that the most interest-

Bomberg's invitations, at a time when he was desperate for attention, to visit his studio. Whatever the excus it was sloppy to take 90 long to ccept anew that Bacon was made of sterner stuff and was on a bigger scale. HE MAGRITTE years divide the book into two cras But both are dominated by the same

was Auerbach. But Bacon's

retrospective at the Tate in

which showed me that he was

just emerging from what I now

saw as a necessary period of transition, and I said this in a

rinted in the book).

ecorded the interview that

was to lead to our making a bookful of them. Nevertheld

in 1964 and again in 1987 I was

still saying that Bomberg was the finest English painter of

the century. It wasn't a stupid

ickert. I must have been in-

fluenced by my sense of guilt about having failed to accept

the finest draughtsman, though probably a lesser painter than Spencer and

ment, for he was surely

long review of the show

(reprinted in the book).

A few months later we

question, the most banal and persistent question in art-critical debate for nearly 100 years now. It is not even the question of Picasso versus Matisse, for even at those times when Matisse seems the greater, Picasso himself is still estion, probably becaus Matisse is a great artist in the same sort of way as many greaterists of the past, whereas Picasso is a kind of artist who couldn't have existed before this century, since his art is a celebration of this century's introduction of a totally promiscuous eclecticism into he practice of art.

In any event, Picasso is the saue, Picasso is the one to beat, Picaseo is the fastest gun in the West, the one every bud ding gunfighter has to best to the draw in order to prove him self. And for those of us who are not involved in the life-and ath struggle of the game of art but only in the sham heroles of the game of criticis Picasso is again the one to beat The young critic cuts his teeth on Picasso. He proves his man hood by putting down Pleaseo which is quite easy because he is so flawed an artist, is such a lossal figure that he has sev

David Sylvester was awarded the Golden Lion for art criticism at the Venice Biennale in 1993, the first writer to receive the award. He is regarded by many as the finest critic of modern art writing in English, He has curated many exhibitions including most recently De Kooning at the Tate and, currently, Francis Bacon at The Pompidou Centre in Paris

eral parts that are clay, proba-bly including his feet, but not his balls.

so in print in 1948, when]

wrote that he was essentially a reat sculptor and that as a painter he was not the equal of Gee or in some ways of Juan Gris. I left these ju behind fairly soon, but in Jan-uary 1963, reviewing a small Matisse exhibition at the Tate, I wrote: "These drawings are precisely and penetratingly realistic . . . Each of them vi-brates with the impact of a par ticular experience. Never do they lapse into generalisations and arty idealisations such as find their way into Picasso's drawings." And I remember that while writing this review made a resolve that my career as a critic was to be dedicated above all — even more than to promotion of a Giacometti-Ra con axis - to establishing that Matisse was a greater artist

than Picasso. Matisse's supremacy was challenged two years later by a small but intoxicating exhibition of Bonnard at the Mai-son de la Pensée Francaise in Paris. This happened to be running concurrently with a great Picasso retrospective, which included Guernica, at the Musée des Arts Décoratifs, "Comparisons may be odious, but the presence of Bonnard ioes not so much allow as force us to see Picasso in per-spective. And in this perspec tive Picasso appears a superfi-cial draughtsman, a very limited colourist, and a painter whose handling of the edium may often be brilliant or delicate but has not got mystery. Yet there remains a radiant, a miraculous, a godlike, capacity to invent forms which ravish our senses, to create a new canon of ideal beauty. His most violent dis-tortions, it seems to me, so far from having a grotesque or alarming effect — and this ap-plies even to Guernica — strike one as highly desirable The adious comparisons were producing the same preference for Bonnard and Ma-

tisse when I wrote a long review of the Picasso retro spective at the Tate in 1980 (reprinted in the book). My standpoint was undoubtedly much influenced by devotion to Gincometti's work and approach. Picasso was a essential finder, Glacometti a quintessential seeker. and it seemed more virtuous to be the latter. Pieces from throughout the

1960s reflect a continuing attachment to Matisse and Bonnard and also an increas ing appreciation of Mondrias But I did publish an unbridled eulogy of Picasso's sculpture, occasioned by the great retro-spective of it in 1967 shown in Paris, London and New York. The most interesting passage was on the bronse Denth's Hend of 1943: "From most

points of view the Death's Head is peaceful, resigned, lies there like a stone or lump of metal ore, makes death a fact ike any other. Until one gets to the point where one is fac-

ing both its eyes. Suddenly it is alive and most horrible.
"It's the distance between appalling unnatural width of the space between. It is as if the eyes had been wrenched apart and one feels one's own being wrenched apart in the

Picasso is the issue, Picasso is the fastest gun in the West . . . for those of us involved in the sham heroics of the game of criticism. he is the one to beat

effort to look each eye in the eye. One recalls those hallucinatory gas masks of the first world war. Is it these associa tions that make these as sinis ter as they seem or is it their design, the blank dislocated gaze of those round wide-apar goggles? The sockets of the Death's Head glare with a look of accusation. The face has comething too of the aspect of hose paralysed faces in medi cal text-books. It is not a dead face, but a face struggling

I did not, however, write then about some Pica paintings of the mid-sixties hat greatly impressed me, for I didn't see the late work in quantity, until the exhibition at the Basle Kunstmuseum in at the Basle Kunstmuseum in the autumn of 1981. This made me long to do an exhibition myself of the late work, a hope that came to be realised largely because of the friend ship with the Leirises that had been initiated on that momenous evening in 1948. I cocurated the exhibition in 1988 at both the Pompidou and the

Working on a Picasso show was a help towards accepting his genius rather than resenting it. I began to understand how the great pieces redeemed the poor ones how they needed the poor ones to clear the way for them. I began to see that, if the great

leces were not great enough because, as I complained in 1960, they were not taken far enough — there was an interaction between pieces that added a further dimension to the work as a whole. Anyway, were they really not taken far

I finally came to my senses about how far they could be taken working rapidly when in 1992 I saw Guernica at the Museo Reina Sofia, saw it, not as one used to at the Museum of Modern Art, coming upon it

sideways, casually - and treating it rather casually, almost patronisingly, like the Mone Lise - but slowly approaching it head on

"The frenzied, helpless, ago nized gestures of the figures. cutting through space in every direction, are locked together — like the pieces of a igsaw — so that they are held in a terrible stillness which the explosive force in every inch of the design is endlessly trying to break through. It is

only in responding to this tension be tween irresistible able structure that I have started to perceive the scale of the imaginative genius that underlies the iconography, its choice and placing of actors and props each functioning both as phenome non and as symbol - the bull, the dying

horse, the bird, the flower, the light bulb, the fallen warrior with a broken sword, the woman mourning a dead child, the woman falling from a burning house, the woman rushing across the scene holding a lamp worked out within a few weeks of the air raid with a conviction that gives it the air of inevitability of a classic eligious iconography."

Coming to see what was there in Picasso happened through realising that it may be more generous to find than it is to seek. I had been freed to accept this by a certain amount of disappointment in the major Glacometti retrospective at Saint-Paul de Vence in 1978. The sculptures up to 1956 had retained all

their magic, but in the aubse there was not the previous perfect reconciliation between the demands of trapping appearance and those of achiev ing structural clarity: the pent-up violence and the power to dominate space were greatly diminished. And the paintings from the mid-1950s on seemed to have suffered a loss of mystery and luminosity. The drawings, on the other

hand, seemed to have got more and more marvellous. Was it relevant that the drawings, unlike the sculptures and paintings, did not invariably take a frontal view of the subject, and in any case lealt with a wide variety of subjects? Perhans the diminution of energy and mystery in the sculpture and paintings had been brought about by the repetitiveness of the interminable attempt to take a rigor-ously frontal view of the model and concentrate totally on get ting a likeness to it. Seeking had become — what it never had with Cezanne, say, or with Mondrian — fetishistic.

One day (according to Maurice Jardot) Picasso told Michel Leiris that he felt that the work of their old friend Giacometti was becoming increasingly monotonous and repetitive. Trying to explain and Giacometti's consuming and intense desire "to find a new solution to the problem of

figuration". Picasso answered: "In the first place there isn't any soluand that's as it should be.'

About Modern Art. Critical Essays 1948-96 by David Sylves-ter, is published this week by Chatto & Windus, £25 hbk

We need friends because there is always an alternative route.





Empress of the radio soaps

IERE should maybe at the end of Brook-Street, EastEnders and certainly The Archers, in memory of Anne Hummert, who has died, a rich lady, witty to the end, in her bed in her Fifth Avenue apartment, at the age of 91. She pretty well invented soap-opera. "Soaps are better than Valium," she said when old, of the TV kind. "It's the same principle — hang on till tomorrow, to be continued. But today there's more sex.

She'd been a girl reporter from Baltimore in the first fashion for ace newspaper-women in the early 1920s; she corresponded from Paris, where she met, married, had son by, and divorced a fellow back within a year, and returned to Chicago. She was all of 22 and couldn't find another newsroom job. Baby needed feeding, so she settled for being an editorial assis-tant to E Frank Hummert, 20 years her senior, partner and copywriter for the leading Chicago ad agency. She sounds to have been super-effi cient and yet — since she was petite — unfrightening. She wanted the pay of a man. She got it. The agency made her vice-president in her mid-twenties.

Reader, she didn't marry him, at least not until 1934. But they were before then a close team. Radio had arrived. The movies had drawn on precelar theatre across two conti-nents, combined with the moguls' family expertise in fantasies of luxury (in furs. shoes and gloves); movies needed capital. But nothing like radio had existed before. It could be created and transmitted cheaply. It was an inti-mate, domestic medium — the receiver was right there in the family house, *all da*y. Early

United States station-programming was scheduled for the evenings, as if radio were theatre — an event — and listeners should sit down and give it all their attention. But Anne and Frank, with

their ad agency expertise, per celved it could be used differently. Those voices over the air — they seemed real. Radio drama could be closer to gos-sip or to the family stories women tell each other in tradi tional cultures, which don't always have beginnings, mid-dles and closed and conclusive ends — the parrative flow is all And so it would reach an untouched yet commercially vital group; housewives — who did almost all the brand-

Her heart was in radio as well as her bank account. She was an audio

Scheherazade

name buying in the US.
Technically, a 1930 programme, Painted Lines by Irna
Phillips, was the pionser
radio soan opera, but Just
Plata Bill, the invention of Anne and Frank, which began moved to daytime the next year became the template for soaps (so-called because the main sponsor-advertisers were soap/detergent compa nies). Housewives "never missed" — an early use of the phrase - an episode about the small town barber who mar-ried above himself.

Bill began an industry— the couple were the equivalent in output to much more than the entire current production staff of Fox TV. At their ze-nith, Hummert Productions

ute serials — that's around 90 episodes a week, each ending with a cliff-hanger, the cliff being distinctly sheerer in the Friday episodes. They were what TV now calls "show runners": they devised the ideas, the main story-line, did the casting, when they became the Hummert assembly line, hired editors filled in the rest

Anne and Frank had move to New York in the mid-1930s when newly-married. Audi-ences sent the shows five million letters a year — babies born in dramas were swampe with presents; their produc-tions took half the ad revenue of daytime radio; they each made \$100,000 annually. Anne Hummert's heart was in radio, as well as her bank account. She was an audio Sche berazade who kept track of every character and plot twist in Stella Dollas, Helen Trent (in her time, the most famous non-existent person in the US), Ma Perkins, Larenzo

Jones, Backstage Wife, John's Other Wife, and the eerie Mr Keen, Tracer of Lost Persons. With Anne around, a scriptwriter had to master a show's

"Can an orphaned girl from a small town in Colorado find happiness as the wife of a wealthy titled Englishman?" asked the teaser for Our Gal Sunday. It was the era Woody Allen recalls in an amber glow in his film Radio Days, when radio seemed to unify families and give the nation a shared timetable. Scaps became the models for popular emotions. And the Hummerts were su-preme in the medium. As Garrison Keillor wrote in A Radio Romanor. "When you were in radio, you owned the world. Men moved aside for you, doors opened, and as you

slipped through, you heard people whisper your name."
It couldn't last, of course. As Keillor also wrote, "the days



ert . . . pioneer of the radio waves, champion of the cliff-hanger

Radio was dream and now it's a jukebox." He was writing about its displacement by the new broadcasting, television, which combined radio's warm omnipresence with the cooler power of the cinema. When television arrived

comfort. They still loved each other. He died in 1966; she was knocked for a loop" by that. She the wed to a socially nt, still looking down on Central Park, and went on travelling, walking her daily three miles until a few mouth the Hummerts checked their ago. She was amazed that the University of Wyoming really big bank balances and began

her activits and memorabilia She leaves two grand-daugh-ters, Pamela Pigonl and Anne Jeskey, and two great-grandchildren.

Anna Schumscher Hummer radio pionser, born January 19, Tim Woodman

Deadly in the darkness

The Guardian Saittrday July 27

IM WOODMAN, who has died aged 82, was a brilliant Royal Air Force nightfighter and intruder pilot who shot down at least nine aircraft over Germany and occupied Europe. It was in February 1944 that be shot down his first aircraft a Messerschmitt 110 -- surviving a gashed wing on his de Havilland Mosquito nightfighter. His score mounted, with one victory — over a Junkers June — achieved with an unserviceable gunsight.
The exploding Juss damaged
the Mosquito and sprayed its
cockpit with oil.

One of Woodman's favourite daylight sortles was attempting to find and attack Karinhall, the country home of the Lultwaffe leader, Hermann Goering. He fantasised about Goering and his cohorts
"scampering for shelter as I slammed cannon shells into the building. That would have given me greater satisfaction than shooting down half-a-dozen Huns," he said. It was never achieved.

Tim" Woodman was born at Trowbridge, Wiltshire, shortly after the outbreak of the first world war; he became an engineering apprentice then joined the Air Ministry's mechanical and electrical design staff and in 1940 he was accepted for pilot training. He won his wings in Canada, and was commissioned in Febru-ary 1941. Operational training in Britain on Hawker Hurricane fighters was followed by a posting to 410 Canadian night-fighter squadron flying the unusual, gun-turreted Boulton Paul Defiant single-engined fighter and then the twin-engined Bristol Beaufighter. After secondment in June 1942 as a production test pilot he moved to 96 Squadron, flying Beaufighter cross-Channe aorties. This included strafing the Paris-Rouen night train



Woodman . . . nightfighter

tance, was packed with German officers. In November 1943 he joined 189 Squadron, flying Mosquitoes on bomber-support and claimed four victories in November 1945 he page

May 1944. In 1945 he was awarded a DFC and a DSO. Peacetime appointments fol-lowed at the radar warfare establishment at Foulsham, the Air Ministry and HQ Fighter Air Ministry and ried righter Command before attending the Empire Test Pilots School at Cranfield; he was deputy superintendent of flying at Boscombe Down from 1950 to 1952; A Soviet delegation was trans-fixed by a silhouette of a flying saucer among the aircraft types depicted on his office

Leaving the RAF in 1952, with the rank of Wing Com-mander, Woodman then worked for Shell's international aviation organisation. He retired in 1960 to Witshire when still only 46, celebrating his 50th birthday in 1964, by cycling more than 4,000 miles across Canada.

Norman Barfield

"Tim" (Ronald George) Woodman, pilot, born June 3, 1914; died

Fred Armstrong

An eye for the with a Royal Air Force film unit in North Africa. He was badly injured when strafed by enemy fighters and spent two years in hospital having his arm rebuilt after 22 perfect print

RED ARMSTRONG. who has died aged 82. was northern picture editor of the Guardian from the mid-1960s until 1976. A Geordie, Fred started with the Evening Chronicle in Newcastle-upon-Tyne. His razor-sharp reflexes were developed when photography was one-plate one-picture and when pressing the shutter release really was a decisive moment. Later, in pre-war Manchester, he was covering everything from hard news to sport, royalty and fashion for the Kemsley Group titles espe cially the Daily and Sunday Graphic picture papers. Never a paparazzo, Fred's

only use for the long-tom lens

was to lug the few hundred-weight of equipment to the top of Old Trafford's pavilion to photograph cricket and focus on his beloved adopted county Lencashire. Equally at home with soccer, he was sit-ting on his camera-beg covering a Manchester City game at Maine Road when one of his heroes, goalkseper Bert Trautmann left his post, and came over for a chat. It is unclear if the match was in progress — but Fred kept the photograph.

He was one of the first to travel abroad to photograph European football, and was brong owner of a commemora tive wrist-watch from Real



Matchless . . . Fred Armstrong with Bert Trautmann beside the pitch at Maine Road, Manchester

operations.
Post-war, he rejoined the
Manchester Svening Chronicle, becoming its picture editer who flounced out of the tor until its 1968 closure. Befrock clashed with Labour's hind the camera again for the děcor. Regrets, she now admits to a Yorkshire Evening Press, he

then took over the Guardian's northern picture desk. Fred iscovered the burgeoning talent of the young Don McPhee, and soon had him on but leaving Labour to co-found the staff, coaxing and nurtur-

When I joined the Guardian after 17 years at the Daily Mail, Fred soon made us realise that we had inherited a unique photographic tradi-tion. Despite poor printing quality, Guardian pictures were special. Fred didn't want the ordinary, when he could be gave us the sheer photo-graphic luxury of — time. The uest was for well thought-out subtle images with a certain

ing that distinctive Guardian

He would occasionally per mit the occasional prod at pompous politicians. The andscape had to be treated ensitively to retain the atmo sphere, which demanded alnost tine-art printing. Above all he knew a good picture when he saw one.

We would have gone to the ends of the earth for him and usually did. Fred is survived by his wife Sheila and daughters Jacqui and Maureers.

Denis Thorpe

Frederick Angus Armstrong, journalist, born April 5, 1914; died Weekend birthdays

TONY BLAIR shouldn't kid TONY BLAIR shouldn't kid himself that by demoting Clare Short, he'll dumb an unquiet shadow; there's a long, living tradition of women of the left with independent minds. If their grande dame is Barbara Castle, then Shirley Williams. Stroky is the size. Williams, 66 today, is the sis

ew - not working harder at her first marriage (to philosopher Bernard) not being Fol-letted early in her career —



the Social Democratic Party 15 years ago isn't one of them. For as Baroness Williams of Crosby (as she's been since 1993) affirmed recently "I be-lieve that if the SDP hadn't been created. New Labour would not have been born.

A principal architect of comprehensive schooling, she stands as a rebuke to Labour, mired in confusion and contradiction over education clear, uncompromised policies were once possible Labour's loss -- look at its dull daughters. But her loss too: part-timing on the Lib Dem benches with no prospect of a cabinet in which to shine.

Today's other birthdays: Michael Ball, singer, 34; Allan Border, cricketer, 41; Christopher Dean, ice skater, 35; Sir Ron Dearing, educationalist, 66; Jo Durie, tennis player, 36; David East, cricketer, 37; Bobbie Gentry, singer, 54; Gabrielle Glaister, actresss, 36, Dame Mary en, educationalist, 83; Elizabeth Hardwick, writer 60, Jack Higgins (Harry Pat-terson), novelist, 67; Lord Jenkins of Putney, former Labour minister, 88; Hansi Muller, skier, former foot-baller, 39; Sir Denis Rickett, former private secretary to

Clement Attlee, 89; Neil Smith, cricketer, 29; Joy

children's television, 66

Whitby, writer and pioneer o

norrow's birthdays: Dr Baruch Blumberg, Nobel Prize winning scientist, former master, Balliol College, Oxford, 71; Ian Grant, chairman, Scottish Tourist Board, 53; Sir Peter Green, former chairman, Lloyd's, 72; Keith Hill, Labour MP, 53; Air Mar shal Sir Richard Johns. chief of staff and deputy com-mander-in-chief, Strike Com-mand and UK Air Forces, 57: Sir Russell Johnston, Liberal Democrat MP, 64; Paul Loughlin, Great Britain rugby league player, 30; Ian McCaskill, weatherman, 58; Dame Rosemary Murray. chemist, former president. New Hall, Cambridge, 83; Riccardo Muti, conductor, 55: Sir David Naish, president, National Farmers' Union, 56; Sir Garfield Sobers, former West Indies cricket captain, 60. Prunella Stack, founder and president, Women's League of Health and Beauty. 82: Murray Stuart, chairJames Tye

Safety first and foremost

AMES TYE, founder and director general of the British Safety Council, who has died aged 74, united a flair for publicity with an worthy, and therefore often neglected, cause. He enhanced all aspects of safety, from road traffic to contraception, leav-ing it a less wimpish concept than he first found it in the

Tye, whose bow tie and spec tacles were as well known in his own field as Robin Day's were in his, went to Upper Hornsey School in London. He served in the RAF from 1940 to 1946 and then became an advertising agent and contractor. His concern with safety arose from a course he took in "advanced driving" to equip him for Britain's busier post-war roads. This led him to devise the concept of "defensive" driving, in which no chances were taken and no competitive offence given to other drivers. In 1962 he became executive director of the British Safety Council, which he himself established in 1957. He lobbied governments, and his media skills led to many minor and at

least two major successes; car seat belt legislation and the health and safety at work act. which came on to the statute book after he had given evidence to Lord Robens's 1977 committee. Consumers' Association officials, who did belts, fizzed quietly while Tye planted himself firmly in the

headlines. Somethnes his flair for a promising campaign even backfored in the media. This failed to trouble him. When

enough, reports have recently

Tye launched National Condom Week in 1988, one journalist told him he suspected it was launched at that time because August was the "silly season" for news. Of course, agreed Tye | ship of the Institute of A immediately and unapologetically: it was so much easier to get copious column inches when Parliament and the courts were not sitting. But it was important, especially in the era of Aids, that ways should be found to surmount

people's embarrassment at buying contraceptives. He was a benign opportunis who latched on to news to make his points, once criticis-ing members of the royal family for not wearing seat beits. Reporters who rang him on almost anything remotely connected with safety were un-likely to come away without a good, often vivid, quote. With the exception of photography and jazz all his re-

creations were competitive; sailing, golf, skiing and badminton. In his seventies, he

James Tye . . . a flair for driving home the point

also swam twice a week, win-ter and summer. His numerous offices included the vicepresidency of the Jamaican Safety Council and the fellowdent Prevention Zambia, In 1950 he married Rosalle Hooker. They had one son and one daughter

James Tye, salety expert, born December 21, 1921; died July 21,

Death Notices GOOD, Inde Klein) Cortrud Trudi, Dudu, Mother died seasofully at home on Morn-day 2nd July 1996 Sorvice at 10.30cm and Wednesday 314 July at West Norwood Cre-matorium, West Norwood Cemetery Nor-

materium. West Norwood Cemsery Norwood Case. London SEZ? Donations of Gestred for the AJR Charitable Trust. 1 Hampstead Road to Frognal, NWS 6AL Emparies to A Yealmen 8 Sons, 384 Norwood Road SEZ?

RUSH. Stanley Martin, of Ormskirk, and Applichty postoluly in his 80th year on 28th July Funtons at Carlello Crematorium, Tuenday, Your July at 12 60pm. Enquence to Glyn Jones 61768 251568

In Memoriam

Memorial Services

TOM WAKEFIELD a memorial service to crickrate the life and work of Tom Wake-field will be held on Turnday Sth Septem-Lor Lore ut \$1 James Church Piccadilly and Stieraard) at the church # to place your announcement telephone 5171 713 4567 Fax 0171 713 4129

Face to Faith

Dark vision of papal bull

Gordon Urquhart

STHE Pope travelled down the Unter den Lin-den in Berlin on his recent visit to Germany, many observers commented that he looked like a waxwork. He barely moved. Now the Pope is on holiday in the Lorenzago mountains of Northern Italy. "I really need a rest," he told journalists. But despite his obvious frailty, all the signs are that he is determined to see in the millennium, as he doggedly sets about his self-appointed task of not only nurning back the clock, but also ensuring that, even after he has gone, nothing will change The Pope is a man of action. Not content with issuing declarations which may be contradicted tomorrow, he is doing his utmost to create a structure which even his successors will be powerless to

Catholicism's great strength as an institution has been its capacity for radical reform from within. This was most dramatically illustrated in living memory with the Second Vatican Council. It must not be forgotten that the turning point of that key event in contemporary Catholicism was open revolt by the world's bishops against the die hards of the Roman Curia.

But this would have been impossible were it not for the implicit faith of Pope John XXIII, the Council's convenor in the continuing guidance of the Holy Spirit. Secure in this faith, he gave the Council Fathers a free hand. His view of the Church was open-ended and projected towards the future, this optimism extended to contemporary society in which he discerned encouraging "signs of the

in contrast, the world-view of the current Pontiff is dark and dualistic. Western society is "the culture of death". Only the Church can provide the remedy by bringing about a "civilisation of love". He supports a raft of vast and fastgrowing Catholic fundamentalist movements. Among the largest and most powerful are the strangely-named Focolare Communion and Liberation and Neocatechumenate, the latter currently the subject of an enquiry in the Catholic dio cese of Clifton in England.

Many Catholics are puzzled by the Pope's enthusiam for these extraordinary organis tions which have been fayoured in this pontificate over the traditional religious orders. They certainly present a frightening vision of the Church, Each is sect-like in character, secretive and elitist, with a personality cult around the founders who claim direct illumination from God. Although the Vatia group, they are in fact incompatible, as each preaches of its unique role not only as the sole salvation of the Catho lic Church but also of the entire world. These movements share the

Pope's bleak view of the modern world and the futility of human endeavour. In contras with the lack of enthusiasm shown by much of the Catholic laity, they campaign vigorously on behalf of the causes that have characterised John Paul's reign — against birth control, pre-marital sex, sterlisation, homosexuality, divorce and liberation theology — the latter is demonised as "the dragon" by Neocatechumenate leaders.

John Paul is impressed by the emphasis these movements place on "results": vocations to the priesthood and the religious life; high birthrates among members (based on regularly published fig-ures) and thousands of conversions. Proselytising takes precedence over justice and peace issues; social problems will be resolved, they believe, once the whole world joins the movement. The Neocatechumenate's zeal is such that they are already planning evange

lising aliens in "distant galaxies." These movements are the embodiment of John Paul's "new evangelisation". They share his backward-looking vision of a Europe re-united by Catholicism. They are his bulwark against future reform, the best guarantee that the agenda of his reign will be If this were not alarming

man. Scottish Power, 63; Phil

Walker, editor, the Daily

issued from Vatienn sources that only the influence of the arch-conservative Cardinal Ratzinger has managed to restrain John Paul from declaring all his encyclicals infallible. Ratzinger, the theolo gian, is no doubt aware that such a move would push the notion of infallibility into the realms of the absurd, and

papal authority would be irre rievably damaged. Such quixotte attempts to defend a tottering Church from the enemy within — as though the entire edifice de pended on the efforts of one man — verge on Pelagianism (believing you can do things on your own without God's grace). But the final word belongs to the Holy Spirat. Could

it be that the crisis of faith at the summit of the Catholic Church will be instrumental in creating a new structure in which centralised authority will diminish, and the local churches finally be allowed to flourish as never before?

Gordon Urquhart is a film director and author of The

Doonesbury

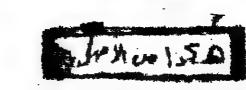


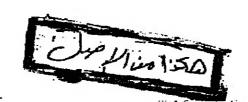












Money Guardian

Life is being made easier for borrowers as the housing market recovers. But the lessons of the eighties should not be forgotten

A multiple choice question the lenders must get right

Teresa Hunter

ISING confidence in the housing market is leading Britain's niggest mortgage lenders to relax lending restrictions by granting home loans of up to five times the

applicant's salary.
Mortgages of four times salary are again available for the first time since the heady days of the 1980s property boom, raising fears that reposses-sion rates could rise sharply should interest rates climb.

Mortgage repossession figures out on Wednesday will reveal that nearly 1,000 families in Britain lose the roof over their heads each week this despite a slight improvement in arrears. A spokesman for the housing charity Shelter said: "Lenders must be res ponsible in their lending and ansure people can pay back the amounts borrowed. We would be very concerned at any general return to giving mortgages willy-nilly. That can only lead to more

As house prices climb, borrowers come under pressure to take out ever larger loans

which, next year, may cost 5 per cent more This in ita house price spiral —as hap-

larger loans, fuelling a price spiral late 1980s. Lenders traditionally assess how much they will on its merits. allow a borrower based on Lenders argue that the multiples of income, typically trauma of the housing market crash taught them a great deal about successfully underwrit-

three times a main income, plus a second income, or twoand-a-half times joint in-comes. But these multiples fluctuate according to market conditions. When the housing market was booming in the ighties, loans of four times income were easy to come by.

But lenders pulled in their horns when the market crashed in the 1990s, cutting right back to a maximum of wo and a half times the main

Many lenders have recently increased their official lendThe mistakes they made

Lenders believed house prices could only go up They encouraged the wrong people to buy They failed to check income statements Income multiples were inflated Vaulations were over optimistic Soaring interest rates were not anticiapted New-style low-start mortgages were introduced Self-certificated loans became available

Miras and mortgage benefit were cut Loans were high in relation to property values

ing criteria to 3.25 times salary plus a second salary but, behind the scenes, loans are available on anything up to five times salary, depending on the individual

Almost all major lenders offer special deals which will "accommodate" borrowers looking for loans larger than they strictly qualify for ac-cording to income — but may insist that the borrower fixes the rate for five years.

A spokesman for mortgage rokers John Charcol said; "All major lenders will grant loans of four times the main salary plus one the second salary provided they are comfort able that the mortgage can be

As house prices climb borrowers

come under pressure to take out

ing loans. They claim their systems are now so sophisti-

ated that they are much bet-

provided all its other checks

and safeguards were satisfied. Similarly, the Halifax is offer-

ing four times salary through

ter at assessing whether bor-rowers will meet mortgage

its Halifax Mortgage Services wing to young professionals with a deposit of 20 per cent. Even through branches the Halifax will go up to 3.5 per cent times the first salary and

once the second. The Woolwich will lend up to four times salary in certain circumstances — although, like the Halifax, such loans are not agreed through the branch network but by the regional mortgage centre.

A Woolwich spokesman said: "We would look carefully at exactly how much went into a bank account each month and what went out by way of expenditure. We would go into a great deal of detail before we would agree to the loan."

The Nationwide has abandoned income when asse ing loans and

now operates a complex credit scoring system repaid. They look at each case | which takes account of all in-

come and expenditure. A Nationwide apokesman said: "Under this system some people will qualify for larger loans than they would have done under the old three-times salary criterion. Two earners with no dependants will be treated more gener-ously than a husband with

But borrowers should think carefully before opting for large loans. They can be badly caught out by sudden sharp rises in interest rates.

by Toresa Hunter this week



Shop around for loans now good times are back

lan Wytie

HE good old days returned for mortgage borrowers this week as Britain's second biggest building society, the Nationwide, cut its mortgage rate to a 31-year low of 6.49 per cent — the cheapest deal on the high

street by quite a margin. The promise of cash bonuses and share windfalls has tied many home-owners to bank "wannabees" such as the Halifax, Alliance & Leicester Woolwich and Northern Rock all to be floated next year. But this week's Nationwide cut may persuade some borrowers that they can do better by

switching lender. Banks like the Abbey National, and banks-to-be such as the Halifax, are now some 0.5 per cent adrift. Borrowers who switch from one of the converting building ocieties before flotation risk losing bonuses of between £500 and £1,000, but in the space of one to two years they could recoup that amount and more by switching to a cheaper building society or direct mortgage lender.

On a repayment mortgage of £50,000 a year, for example a Nationwide borrower will pay £319.06 a month from ptember 1. At the Halifax, the same mortgage would cost £331.02 — an excess of £11.96, or £143.52 over the year. On a £120,000 mortgage, the differ-ence would be £35.88 a month,

or £430.56 a year. On interest-only mortene the difference can be even greater. Nationwide borrow ers with mortesees of £50,000 will be £18.97 a month — or

£227.64 a year — better off than a Halifax borrower. On a £120,000 interest-only mort-gage the difference is £48.13 a month, or £577.56 a year. But for the best standard variable mortgage rates borrowers should pick up the telephone. Direct lenders are now undercutting their rivals, and sometimes col-

leagues, by up to 1 per cent. Bradford & Bingley Mort gages Direct holds the lowest rate at present, charging 5.99 per cent on loans up to 75 per cent of the property value. The deal comes with a £250 rebate and six months free accident, sickness and unemployment insurance. Direct Line weighs in at 6.05 per cent on 90 per cent mortga also promises to waive mortgage indemnity premium and refund valuation fees.

Borrowers who need a 95 per cent advance should con-sider Legal & General Mortgage Services, which offers a variable rate of 6.24 per cent, free valuation and £400 rebate or legal costs.

Newcastle Building Society will withdraw its 6 per cent cashback offer on Monday and replace it with a mortgage which offers a cash bonus of 5 per cent. The cashback will be available on Newcastle's standard variable mortgage rate of 6.99 per cent for loans between £15,000 and £250,000.

Bank of Scotland Mortgages Direct has added a cheque-book option to its 85 per cent mortgage. Borrowers can pay additional money into their mortgage account or borrow further amounts at the standard rate of 6.49 per cent. Up to 12 cheques a year can be writ-ten up to a limit of £50,000.

three children and a dependant wife." A spokesman for Birmingham Midshires admitted that the society would lend up to five times salary through its mortgage broker subsidiary

Savers pay price for advance on home front

lan Wylle

HE Halifax will pile on the misery for savers next Thursday when it lops an average of 0.3 per cent off savings rates. Savers are paying a heavy price for building societies' eagerness to sustain the recovery in the housing mar-

ket. But while some banks and building societies cut savings rates following June's onequarter point cut in base rates, the Halifax has delayed any cut to coincide with its mortgage rate cut, which also takes The delay will be of little

ngs rates of all banks and building societies are now ower than at any point since 1939, when it started to compile data. Halifax savers, however, have grounds for further complaint as next week's change will leave the society with some of the worst rates on the high street.

A deposit of £500 or more in a Liquid Gold Account will, from Thursday, earn just 2.15 per cent gross — 1.72 per cent net - while a balance of more than £25,000 returns a meagre 3.40 per cent gross, 2.72 per society, the Alliance & Leices-

ter, is advertising instant-ac-cess rates of 2.7 and 3.6 per confort to savers. According to MoneyFacts, average saycent (2.16 and 2.88 per cent net) for the same amounts, while the Portman has a flat rate of 4.80 per cent gross -- 3.84 per The Nationwide currently

offers 2.8 per cent gross (2.24 per cent net) on balances of £500, but the society hinted this week that savers should brace themselves for a fall in Halifax Tessas will also look

less than competitive from next week. The society will pay just 5.45 per cent, while the Alliance & Leicester pays 6.70 per cent and the Covenity 6.90 per cent. The Halifax dismisses suggestions that it is risk their share bonuses by jumping ship before the society floats. Cheltenham & Gloucester, a

former society which was also accused of short-changing savers in the run-up to becom ing part of Lloyds Bank, will open its door to small savers from August by reducing to £100 the minimum required to open any of three of its savings accounts. The minimum opening balance on the Cheltenham Gold account before conversion was £1,000, for the London Account £2,500 and for the 90-Day account £10,000. Birmingham Midshires has

offering rates of up to 5.9 per cent gross, 4.72 per cent net First Class 30 also pays a 0.50 per cent gross bonus if capital is left untouched for 12 months, with a minimum de-

DOSIT OF £10.000. Barclays has a new equitylinked savings bond which it says will guarantee a return of at least 30 per cent gross. The five-year bond has a mini-mum investment of £2,000. On maturity, Barclays will pay a return equal to the growth in the FT-SE 100 index over the period, or 30 per cent of the initial investment.

Leeds and Holbeck has two new five-year bonds, a sharebond. The bond is tied to the FT-SE 100 index, but the soci sty guarantees a minimum return of 25 per cent. Mini-

mum investment is £2.500.

The escalactor bond, with a minimum investment of £5,000, increases the bond's fixed rate of return annually Interest can be paid monthly or annually: monthly interest starts at 5.85 per cent gross, 4.68 per cent net. Discounts of 1 per cent on

are on offer from Friends Provident on some unit trusts for a limited period. Inves in FP's three ethical unit trusts get the discount on sums of £5,000 or more.

What you save

Payments for a standard repayment mortgage

Loan E	Mon payment & at 6.49 per cent	Mon payment C at 6.99 per cent	Mon saving £
30,000	186.68	194,49	7.81
40,000	251.90	259.57	7.67
50,000	319.06	331.02	11.96
60,000	386.76	402.48	15.70
70,000	454.67	473.91	19.24
80,000	522,69	546.35	22.66
90.000	590.78	616.80	26.02
100,000	658.91	688.24	29.33
120,000	795.25	831.13	35.88

Payments for an interest-only mortgage

	Mça payment E	Mon payment c	
Logo C	at 6.49 per cent	at 6.99 per cent	Mon saving C
30,000 .	137.92	148.55	10.63
40,000	192.00	206.80	14.60
50,000	. 246.08	265.05	18.97
60,000	300.17	323.30	23,13
70,000	354.25	381.56	27.30
80,000	408.33	439.80	31.47
90,000	462.42	498.05	35.63
100,000	516.50	556.30	39.80
120,000	624.67	672.80	48.13
<u> </u>			

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Alex Brummer

ALL the UK's financial service providers, Lloyds TSB deserves plaudits for clear strategic thinking. Its decision to swoop on Britain's best-run building society, Cheltenham & Gloucester, at a time when building society mergers and conversions had scarcely bee considered, was a coup, while the TSB takeover had the virtue of moving the group into a different, less up-market sec-tor of financial services.

Few organisations have the capacity to change the corporate culture in the way Lloyds has, after its setbacks in Latin America in the early 1980s and defeat in the fight for con trol of Midland.

The architect of much of this has been Sir Brian Pitman, now the elder statesman of UK clearing banking. But while the other clearers were forced by management mistakes to move down a genera-tion to find new bosses, in the ahape of such people as Mar-tin Taylor at Barciays and Derek Wanless at NatWest. Sir Brian remains firmly in the saddle at Lloyds TSB as he

approaches 65.
This of itself is no problem. except that like other dominant corporats leaders he has shown until now no propen-sity to choose a successor. It was thought at one point that, in buying C&G, Sir Brian was also finding an interim success sor in Andrew Longhurst, but he has not even made the main Lloyds TSB board. Peter Ellwood of TSB must remain the

internal favourite. It is the uncertainty over the succession that caused some grief on the stock market following the first-half results. Although the first half of 1996 may not have been the high-octane performance which the analysts have come to expect from the black

horse, there is little to be con-With the consumer side of the economy now starting to pick up steam, including the housing market, there is reason to believe that the second half for Lloyds will be considerably better than the 39 per cent increase to £794 million seen in the first half. In fact, while Barclays has a good chance of a sparkling first half, Lloyds ap-

pears to be the convers Points to note in the Lloyds figures are the £88 million write-off for Hill Samuel Corporate Finance, which has been parcelled off to the second-wave UK merchant hank Close Brothers, and the small recoveries in its problem-country debt account. This is offset by a vigorous

showing in Brazil. Plainly, the succession will hover over Lloyds TSB until the new management is un-veiled and ensconced. But over the longer haul this is unimportant. Along with the Halifax, it has positioned itself in the first rank of finan-cial service providers, while

Psion pipped

starting gate.

HE collapse of merger talks between Psion and Alan Sugar's Amstrad

others are scarcely out of the

spite his entrepreneurial skills, Sugar has always been a notoriously difficult person to do a deal with. He was always likely to complain that Psion — technically a smaller company - was seeking a deal on the cheap. However, the worst out-

come from this aborted take over is the hitter public row which appeared to be developing last night, with each side accusing the other of bad faith. This is where Anglo-Saxonstyle takeover capitalism goes off the rails. While the two sides quarrel about who is to blame for the failure to agree financial terms, the industrial advantages of the deal are for-gotten and the chances of a

trade alliance — instead of full akeover — presumably fall apart too. As market leader in the hand-held computer market, Psion needs better telecom technology, which Amstrad has. Nokia of Finland is aiready testing some of the new computer/phone technology which Psion-Amstrad has in its sights. If would be tragic if Psion found itself stranded.

Honest Ken

HE Chancellor, Kenneth Clarke, has set an excellent precedent with his lecision to publish the conclusions of the IMF's regular review of the UK economy. 'Article IV consultations' have been an important part of the IMF's work since its inception some 50 years ago, although they have been beefed up in recent years as surveillance work on the larger industrial economies

has intensified. The current Chancellor has been at the cutting edge of making the economic policymaking process more transparent with the publication of minutes of the Bank/Treasury monthly meetings, a more open period of preparation for annual budgets and now the release of the IMF reports; it is to be hoped that his successors at Number 11 will follow

the precedent. Of course the IMF is not that unhelpful to the Chancellor. Firstly, it finds economic prospects in Britain favour-able, with the prospect of a further decline in unemployment. Growth is likely to reach 3 per cent, with the risks on the upside.

ice me Gover ment's "you have never had it so good (at least for the last

year)" claims. Secondly, the Chancellor has a new stick to beat spending ministers over the head

with as the budget focuses on public expenditure. The IMF takes a robust line: the public sector borrowing requirement has veered off its ntended track and, if spending is to be brought back under control, the cuts must come from current outlays,

not capital budgets. Britain, in the IMF view. cannot postpone capital spending without endangering longer-term prospects for

What the Chancellor may find more inhibiting is the recognition by the IMF that interest rates, Mr Clarke's flexible friend in the run-up to the election, might have to rise to choke off inflationary risks, should the recovery become

too strong.
This is the kind of argument that the Governor, Eddie George, has been making at recent Bank/Treasury meetings, which is all the more reason to applaud the release and to hope that it persuades other countries to take a less secretive approach to economic management.

Supermarkets group Asda has been challenging price maintenance on medicaments

- as it did with books - by

cutting the price of items such as Anadin, successfully chal-lenged by the drug manufac-

turer Whitehall Laboratories.

removed Seven Seas cod liver oil from its shelves, claiming it was poor value for money at

The OFT is known to oppose

Earlier this week Asda

was only too predictable. De-

Price maintenance on medicines under threat

Lisa Buckingham

PRICE maintenance on some over the counter medicines, ranging from pain-killers and indigestion remedies to healthfood products, looked further under threat yesterday as the Office of Fair Trading decided to widen its nvestigation of the issue which has brought supermarkets, drug makers and chemists into conflict.

John Bridgeman. OFT director general, remains undecided about whether to refer the arguments back to the Restrictive Practices Court, which decided in 1970 manufacturers could impose minimum prices.

the ban on resale price mainte-nance. But since the Net Book Agreement collapsed last year book discounting has become commonplace.

Apart from OTC treatments.

only books remain exempt from

the proportion of their earnings from prescriptions to about

price maintenance and Mr Bridgeman said there had been many changes in the market since 1970 which could justify a return to the Restrictive Practices Court. Since the court last looked at the pricing debate local chemists had increased

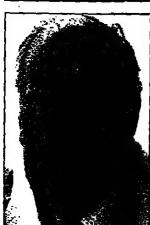
75 per cent. The Community Pharmacy Action Group said it welcomed the OFT keeping an open mind on price maintenance.

TOURIST RATES -- BANK SELLS

Australia 1.9175 France 7.5a Austria 15.68 Germany 2.2 Beiglum 45.91 Greece 359,3 Canada 2.0325 Hong Kong Cyprus 0.6915 India 55.25 Germany 2 23 Greece 359.00 Hong Kong 11.75 India 55.25 Ireland 0.9340

Malta 0.5415 Singapore 2 1550 Molta 0.5415 South Arica 6.74 Spain 189.25 Spain 189.25 Sweden 10.02 Switzerland 1.81 Turkey 124.55

Norway 9 5525 Portugal 230.75 Saudi Arabia 5.61 Sweden 10.02 Seitzerland 1.61 Turkey 124,507 USA 1.5225



Mauled . . . Public Utilities Reform Group 'fat cat' protesters (right) made Sir Desmond Pitcher (above) their prime target

One third of shareholders oppose United Utilities 'fat cats'

salary scheme Bosses quash pay revolt

David Ward

NITED Utilities recedented share holder revolt yesterday to win backing for a controversial ex-ecutive pay scheme which could see directors' salaries

The scheme earned chairman Sir Desmond Pitcher the title of "King of the Fat Cats" from Labour. At the super-utility's annual meeting in Manches scheme by saying that if share holders wanted a good com-

increase by 87 per cent.

pany they would have to agree to higher boardroom pay. Directors had spent the pre-vious week lobbying the big-gest shareholders to ensure that the incentive scheme was not kicked out at the meeting.

But the board of the company — which comprises North West Water and the electricity company, Norweb
— was still forced to put the
new scheme to a poll at the AGM, after small shareholders rejected it. There was an unusually high card vote against: nearly 35 per cent of shareholders, including some big institutions, rejected the

Holders of 68.5 million shares voted against the remu neration scheme against 128.5 million in favour. The resolution required only a

simple majority to pass. The 13 men on the platform, iescribed by one shareholder as looking like participants at the last supper, were given a fairly easy ride during the

Sir Desmond, whose basic salary rose by 21 per cent to £310,000 in April, appeared to lose his composure only when asked why so many directors were paid so much compared with the period before

"Very few people would go back to 1969," he snapped. You are just going to have to

accept this. If you want a good

you have to have good people

running it." Sir Desmond, who refused to be interviewed after the meeting, dismissed the title of "King of the Fat Cats" as "offensive cheap journalism" and claimed the Long Term incentive Plan (L-TIP) would

set very high targets. L-TIP is based on overlapping three-year performance cycles, with rewards offered in a mix of cash and shares. Brian Staples, the chief ex-ecutive who earns a basic £300,000, said at a press brief-ing that he believed he was worth every penny of what he

He would welcome a ratio-

earned, "or most of it".

nal debate about the proper level of pay for an executive running a company like UU. "You may regard me as a fat cat but I have worked all my life to acquire the skills and ability to become a chief executive of a FTSE company." He added: "Tm'not at all

bashful about it. Why would shareholders want a company like United Utilities to be led by people who are not as good as the shareholders can get?"

Five other utilities held AGMs yesterday including Hyder, the Welsh water and tricity combine, Southern Electric, the National Grid, National Power and East Mid Hyder also faced criticism

over a new executive pay package, but managed to win backing for it, saying its scheme was not as high as that proposed for United Utilities. Under the Hyder scheme,

directors will get no bonus unless the company reaches 125th position in the FTSE top 250 in three years against its current position at 140th. If the company gets to 62nd position or above, they may receive 50 per cent of their basic salary in shares, held in trust over a

period of three years. Grant Hawkins, chairman of Hyder's renumeration committee, told Hyder's first AGM in Cardiff: "We believe that

the package is fair, reasonable — but challenging."

BAA plans rail

links between

Heathrow and

DRAMATIC plans to make Heathrow the hub for rail

connections to Birmingham and Manchester, and limit the need for domestic air travel

are being prepared by BAA, the former British Airports

Authority, as evidence to the

Now that it owns the Heath-

row Express project, the pro-posed 16-minute fast rail link from central London to the air-

port, due to open in 1998, BAA

is seeking to extend the line through Terminal 5, and then on to Reading and the West.

It wants to prove to the in-quiry that increased surface

access to Heathrow, the busi-

est international airport on the world, would diminish the

number of internal landings at

Heathrow. It is also seeking to

reduce car congestion at the

airport and raise public trans-

giving evidence in September.

But the plan shows the grow-ing attraction that improved

rail links with Heathrow are

Richard Branson has ex-

pressed an interest in part of

Paddington and Reading, and on the West Coast main line

between London and Glasgov

More than £1 billion needs to

be spent improving this route and the Government is des-

perately searching for private

Senior BAA managers said

yesterday they envisaged "a national network of trains

and buses" focused on Heath-row, with direct rail links to

Gatwick as well as Birming-

ham and Manchester. Rolling stock for the E350 million Heathrow Ex-

press is being assembled in

Spain. The fare from Padding

ton to Heathrow is likely to be

the British Rail route between

having on other groups.

port use to 50 per cent. Final details will be released when BAA begins

Terminal 5 inquiry.

North-west

Keith Harper Transport Editor

Psion terminates talks with Amstrad

TTEMPTS by Psion, the Amstrad, Alan Sugar's elecacrimony last night when Psion refused to meet Am-

strad's asking price. Sources on both sides said that Amstrad had refused Psion's initial offer, valuing it at around £235 million, but that Psion had balked at the who stood to gain at least

280 million from the deal. In a statement issued 10 ninutes before the market closed. Psion said discussions with Amstrad had been "terminated", adding that it "had not been possible to reach

which an offer could be made. Shares of Amstrad, a 1980s high-flyer, crashed 29p to 160p — against the 200p at which Paion's original offer was pitched — on the news. Shares of Tottenham Hotspur, the Premier League football club chaired by Mr Sugar, which could have expected to benefit

from the extra funds available to the Hackney-born tycoon, skidded 15p to 429p.
It is understood that Psion.

offer for Amstrad after a daylong meeting at which alternacussed. Sources on the Paion ride accused Amstrad of attempting to force it into an early deal by leaking details of earlier talks to the press. Sources on the Amstrad side hit back at once, accusing David Potter. Psion's chair-

man and chief executive, of

"bottling out" when "he real-

ised Amstrad was too big for his company to swallow". "Psign doesn't waste its time on frivolous discussions. This isn't a disaster, it's just that

this was not a time when sion was ready to go with this deal." But sources on the Amstrad ide retorted: "We've given

them all the details they wanted. Frankly, we've been astoniahed by the amount of due diligence they did." Sources on Amstrad's side also claimed that Psion, which has been backed by merchant

bankers Charterhouse and brokers BZW, had paid over 21 million to professional ad-visors in perparing the deal. Both Amstrad and Psion stressed that the failure of the talks would not affect their

prospects.
Psion, which was particularly keen on Amstrad's mobile telephone unit Dancall, insisted it would continue to make progress in its key markets of personal

Meanwhile, Mr Sugar was said to be "pragmatic" about the deal's collapse.

Lloyds TSB set to | Farms and factories put brake on growth

Sarah Whitebloom

appoint Pitman

R Brian Pitman, chief executive of Lloyds TSB. was last night tipped strongly to emerge as chairman of the bank after the in-cumbent, Sir Robin Ibbs, said an announcement over the succession would be made in about two months.

Sir Robin was speaking as the bank announced pre-tax profits of £1.14 billion for the six months to the end of June -a 12 per cent increase on the same period last year.

But while there is general agreement over Sir Robin's replacement, the chief executive succession is less easy to predict. Both deputy chief ex-ecutives — Peter Ellwood, the former chief executive of TSB, and Alan Moore, a Lloyds bank stalwart — are seen as

front runners. In true Soviet style, the succession appeared mapped out in terms of seating arrange-ments at yesterday's results meeting. Mr Ellwood, 52, was seated on Sir Brian's immediate left, in what seemed the natural place for a successor.

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But there is a powerful school of thought which believes Mr Moore, 59— who was seated at the very end of the table should take up the reins for a period, allowing Mr Ellwood time to gain more experience. lovds acquired TSB.

Sir Robin and Sir Brian have presided over a huge ex-pansion of the bank over the last couple of years. In addition to TSB, Lloyds has acquired the Cheltenham & Gloucester building society. Yesterday's results, which

showed a 32 per cent increase in pre-tax profits from on-going businesses, was seen as a demonstration of their sucess in creating a strong retail banking institution. Sir Robin said of the figures

"There is something in it for everybody — customers, staff and shareholders."

But Lloyds, which has cut i,400 staff in the first half this year, refused to say how many job losses will be made between now and Christmas. Branch network staff, under pressure from the introduction of technology, are likely to be the most vulnerable.

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Abbie Rumbold and Larry Elliott

HE Government's upbeat forecast of eco-nomic growth this year night after a combination of mad cow disease and sluggisl manufacturing hit Britain's output in the second quarter o

the year. A sharp fall of up to 10 per cent in agricultural output, caused by the BSE inspired cull of cattle, was one factor limiting economic expansion to 0.4 per cent for the third uccessive quarter. It leaves the Chancellor.

Kenneth Clarke, needing a strong burst of activity in the second half of the year if the economy is to hit the forecast for growth of 2.5 per cent in 1996, which was made less than a month aco.

Figures from the Office for National Statistics show that output in the second quarter was only 1.8 per cent higher than a year earlier — the slowest rate for more than three years. Growth will now need

cent in both the third and fourth quarters in order to fulfil the Chancellor's predic-

The recent improvement in consumer spending and the housing market prompted ome City analysts to suggest that this was not an entirely vain hope. "We expect activity to start to pick up strongly in the second half." said Jona-

The ONS said that, without the knock-on effect of BSE. ever, the data also showed that economic performance

ector. Despite a pick-up in housebuilding, output from con-struction is still more than 10 per cent lower than it was fore the recession began six

 which accounts for 63 per than Loynes of HSBC Green-

growth in the second quarter would have been 0.1 of a percentage point higher. Howremains patchy, with construction back in recession. manufacturing flat, and growth driven by the energy

ector and parts of the service

of government cuthacks and the delays associated with the Private Finance Initiative: The energy sector has been boosted by the surge in North Sea oil and gas output, and given an added fillip by the inusually cold weather in Overall, the service sector

cent of the economy's output witnessed robust expansion in the three months to June, accelerating from 0.5 per cent rowth to 0.7 per cent The upward trend in consumer spending belped under pin the distribution, hotels

and catering sectors. The arrival of foreign football fans for the Euro 96 competition co incided with a jump in business for pubs and clubs. Since the trough of the recession in 1993, the economy has grown for 17 successive quarters by a total of 11.3 per

cent - an identical performance to the recovery from the slump of the early 1980s. Excluding oil and gas production, the increase has been

years ago. The report shows 10.3 per cent, slightly more that the weakness is in infrastructure spending, which has than the 9.4 per cent in the 17 slowed considerably because to speed up to more than I per quarters after the 1980 trough.

ESPITE skimming the cream from Britain's top universities, the Treasury is just like any other workplace in Britain. it transpired yesterday. The élite civil servants who run the economy like their jobs. enjoy working with their

Civil Service has improved

markedly as memories of the Government's Black

Wednesday humiliation

fered by Treasury mandarins.

Although they are happy Only 62 per cent of the 605

respondents to the survey thought the Treasury was highly regarded by its own ministers, and this dropped to 40 per cent when the civil servants were asked whether the City viewed

> press, just one in five think Treasury's departments

According to the survey. Treasury overall.

retary to the Treasury, said

payroll has been "downsized" in the post three years, but Sir Terry rejected the idea that the results of the survey had been affected by the departure of

The truth about life at the Treasury

fade, but Kenneth Clarke's "kids" are scathing about the quality of leadership of-

with the shake-up of the Whitehail machine two rears ago, the economists administrators and back-up staff at Great George Street feel their efforts go sadly unappreciated by the world outside.

M.Sc IN MANAGEMENT Part of a new programme encompassing the Post-Graduate Certificate, Post-Graduate Diploma and M.Sc in Management. Running the economy isn't all fun, The programme combines workplace relevance with says LARRY ELLIOTT of a new survey academic rigour to provide a set of progressive broad based qualifications in general management aimed at those with some workplace experience seeking to develop their

nates — but hate the bosse Morale at the hub of the

them favourably.
After the pasting the department has had in the

> the media loves them. Re-organisation in 1994 involved restructuring the into new directorates, a thinning out of top grades, reduction in staff and the introduction of Performance Related Pay.

three-quarters of the staff think their own team is well managed, but only 25 per cent say the same about the

Announcing the results of the survey of staff. Sir Terry Burns, the Permanent Seche was "heartened" by the

findings.
A third of the Treasury malcontents to the City.

Politicians dither as Bulgaria slides

People are queuing for bread, talking about dictatorship and rushing to sell the national currency, writes ALISON SMALE in Sofia

ANTED: a leader and a programme to arrest Bulgar-ia's rapid slide into political and economic chaos. The president warns of riots spawned by hunger. Bulgari-ans talk improbably of restor-ing monarchy or turning to military dictatorship to replace politicians who dither over economic reform

Pointing to the rising influ-ence of criminals and shady businessmen, a senior west-ern diplomat says Bulgaria could fall under the sway of gangsters well-connected to the war profiteers of neigh-

bouring Serbia. It sounds extreme, But so is the situation, Monthly inflation is running at 20 per cent and getting worse. Bread and electricity prices more than doubled in the past month. The value of the national currency, the lev, has plunged 30 per cent against the dollar

since mid-June. "In a crisis like this, the first thing you lose is the abil-ity to forecast, "said Ognyan Minchey, a political scientist. "If somebody knew what was going to happen in six or even three months, then the crisis

would not be so deep." Worrled Bulgarians daily crowd banks to withdraw savings and convert their leva into dollars, marks and other hard currencies.

Banks are struggling to stave off insolvency. Interest rates have been set at 108 per cent in a failed attempt to sta-bilise the lev — with the result that loss-making state enterprises cannot afford to make

loan payments.
Small shops and businesses that mushroomed after the end of Stalinism in 1989 are also failing. Most stores offering fashion or western consumer goods have slashed prices by half, but people are

Many owners mortgaged their houses to go into business. Even under communism, 80 per cent of Bulgarians owned their homes. If they now default on loans and lose those homes, a new cycle of impoverishment will start.

"I can't see how we'll get out of this," said Tsonka Belcheva, a saleswoman at a private shop in Bulgaria's second city. Ploydiy. The store sells. at most, one pair of children's

shoes per day. Ms Belcheva was feeling grimly lucky because she had just found two loaves in a city that has been short of bread for more than a month.

Despite tangible anger over Ploydiv's bread shortages, just 400 people showed up for a recent protest rally called by the anti-communist opposi-tion. 'This is what we Bulgari-ans are like — we suffer and do nothing," said Maria Vaics specialist standing in a bread queue in Ploydiy.

Petko Bocharov, a popular newspaper columnist, sees "an absence of a feeling of national belonging". Monu-ments to national heroes are defiled, or melted down for metal, he observed, and "no-body cares, nobody cares." "This, here, is a popula-tion," he said. "This is not a

nation." Parliament has shown no unity of purpose in addressing the worsening problems. The ruling Socialists (the former Communist Party) blame the anti-communist opposition. The opposition faults the

In the 1994 election, Premier Zhan Videnov's party won a solid majority in the 240-mem-

ber parliament. That appeared at the time to be a mandate finally to push through reforms, over which politicians have been hesitating since the overthrow of the Communist dictator Todor Zhivkov in late 1989. But Mr Videnov has done almost

nothing. The Socialists, divided be-tween Stallnists and social

'In a crisis like this, the first thing you lose is the ability to forecast. No-one knows what will happen next'

The Socialist Party "is a glant rock on the road," said Mr Minchev. "You have to pass it, but it's blocking the whole

philosopher and former anti-Communist dissident, seems to be manoeuvring to fill the leadership vacuum — even though he is supposed to stand down when his term expires

in January.

Warning of the danger of mass unrest, Mr Zhelev advocates a change in the constitution to give his mainly ceremonial post real power. Others place hope in King Simeon, who was exiled by the

Communists as a nine-yearold child in 1946 and made a triumphant return in May and June, drawing Bulgaria's higgest crowds in decades. Many people said he made them feel a bit better about

being Bulgarian.
But restoration of the mon-archy is banned by the constitution—even if Simeon wanted to preside over the mess created by half-hearted reform. - AP

EU urges firms to join hands with voluntary sector. JOHN PALMER in Brussels reports Partnership plan to aid jobless

USINESS leaders are coming under covernments in the creation obs in the voluntary, or "socially useful", sector of the

economy.

As fears grow of a jobless economic recovery later this year, the private sector is being encouraged to join partnership schemes with national and regional authori-ties across the EU to boost em-ployment in the "social

According to a European Commission study, about three million people are al-ready working in the voluntary or "third sector" of the European economy in nonprofit enterprises.

These include some 300,000 co-operatives, mutual societwork on the protection of the

The Association for Innova live Cooperation in Europe says 13 per cent of the net nev jobs created in France, Germany and the United States between 1980 and 1990 were in

the non-profit sector.
The Irish government,
which has taken over the presidency of the European Union, de action on unemployment a key priority for its six-month period in office. Ireland's finance minister,

Ruairi Quinn, said this week that be would like to see both the private and public sectors co-operate in generating jobs through local employment pacts in all countries within the EU.

The Irish government wants the European Union, heads of government summi

well as the caring services and | December, to agree on a series of job initiatives including action on local employment

pacts. These could include partnership schemes, under which private businesses help finance new non-profit enterprises or provide managefor socially-useful employ-

ment projects. "We cannot afford any more ringing declarations of intent about unemployment. If we are to be credible in the eyes o the citizen, action not words must be agreed at the Euro-pean Council," Mr Quinn declared.

business to play a bigger role in job creation in local communities say that firms such as Marks & Spencer, which has worked with local au-thorities in industriallyFrance, show what can be

"It is in their own interest that the employers work with the wider community in tack ling mass unemployment," in-sists, Padraig Flynn, the Euro-pean social affairs commissioner.

If we can reduce unemployment, governments can be nelped to reduce their budget deficits to prepare for mone-tary union, which is the best insurance for the single Euro-pean market." However, moves to involve

the private sector more directly in supporting socially useful employment schemes controversial within the busi The extent of the responsi-

bilities of business in tackling unemployment in society led to some sharp exchanges be-tween employers' leaders,

the EC during a recent meet-

ing in Dublin.
The European Trade Union
Confederation (ETUC)
believes that the socially-useful sector is potentially very rich as a source of new jobs. our economies is increasingly important," according to Peter Coldrick, an ETUC

official. "Much more work needs to be done on how to support job creation here to make up for the continuing loss of jobs in private industry not only due to recession but to technologi-

cal change and corporate restructuring." The EC is also focusing on how best to belp the "alternative" economic sectors generate jobs with decent pay and

Rut most European indusponsibility is primarily to ensure the success of their own they worry that this might be made more difficult by having to support social economy projects.

This view is now being seriously challenged. "I did point out in Dublin that business, by and large, is doing pretty well at the moment. Profits are high and the rate of return on invested capital is better than for decades past," Mr

Flynn points out.
But, Prançois Perigot, president of the EU employers' organisation, Unice, warned that business would not look very favourably at any move to introduce a backdoor "jobs

tax" on the private sector. "The best way to achieve the creation of the jobs that we all want to see is by helping European industry ensure that it is globally competi-



All lit up . . . Frankfurt's financial centre, seen from the River Main, is on a wave of optimism thanks to rising profits from two top banks

PHOTOGRAPH: DENIS THORPS

Buoyant markets dispel German banking gloom

Financial staff

HIE outlook for Ger-

many's banking indus-try began to look rather brighter this week. Yesterday, Deutsche Bank, Europe's largest, revealed a near-15 per cent surge in first-half net profits and said that full-year profits should top the 1995 total of DM2.1 billion (£910 million).

Buoyant financial markets had helped boost both commission and trading income. We are confident that we shall be able to report a higher profit for the 1996 financial year than for last year," Hil-

mar Kopper, Deutsche Bank's chief executive, said. "Here, our business abroad will again make an important contribution."

The results confirm a trend to strong earnings growth. Earlier this week, Commersbank, reported an improve-ment in operating profits of 48 per cent, taking the total to DM1.32 billion. Commercians said that it was bard to predict the outcome for the year be-cause of the difficult banking environment but said it was confident that its cost-cutting measures would "enable us to

continue our path of earnings

orientated growth".

growth was driven by a 29.5 per cent rise in net com lion, while trading profits rose 59.8 per cent to DM1.38 billion.

Trading income from bond and share dealing rose 61 per-cent to DM830 million, while currency and metals dealing profits rose a more modest 17.6 per cent to DMS14 mil-

However, provisions against bad debt surged 81 per cent to DM818 million. Analysts said this reflected Deutsche Bank's DM550 million contribution to the rescue of engineering firm Kloeckner-

Commersbank also reported higher provisions, up from DM319 million to DM343 million.

Commerzbank's results were at the top end of foreca ers' expectations. Analysts also welcomed the Deutsche results, arguing that its shares should benefit from its

drive to reorganise and grow. With its strong expansion of investment banking, recent management revamp and pledge to offload non-perform-ing industrial holdings, Deut-sche was preparing for inevitable change in the banking sector, after European eco-

nomic and monetary union.

"Deutsche is clearly the best of the bunch today, from a strategic point of view," said Stefan Ermisch, banking analyst at Trinkaus & Burkhardt. Administrative expenses

grew 7.7 per cent to DM7.02 billion, allaying fears that it was throwing too much

vestment banking arm, Deutsche Morgan Grenfell. Adjusted for the effect of exchange rate changes and firsttime consolidations, the rise was 1.6 per cent. But analysts said they expected the in-crease in costs to accelerate.

money at its London-based in-

Odd strokes as Russian taxman tries to collect

David Hearst in Mescow

USSIAN tax inspectors are considering letting prime defaulters pay taxes in kind rather than in

So oil companies would pay in oil or shirtmakers in shirts. Other ideas include slapping a weight allowance on all goods brought in over Russia's borders, charging the carrier for excess weight, taxing foreign cars and alcohol production. Such bizarre ideas, as the

cash-strapped government searches for revenue, have been prompted by the International Monetary Fund. Its latest mission returned to Washington this week, recommending delay of this month's \$330 million (\$220 mil-

lion) tranche of its \$10.2 billion loan until the Russian government sorts out its revenue

crisis.

The reason is simple. Noone in Russia is paying their taxes. The latest reason was the fear of a return of the com-

munists to power.
There are many ways of dodging tax, including working at one company for dollars and registering at another for a small rouble salary.

Most tax collection is from businesses, who are already taxed so highly that many say

....

tions, which had slipped to 18 frillion roubles (£2.4 billion) in the first half of the year will have to increase by 40 per cent in the second just to catch up.

As a result the budget deficit is ballooning out of control.

The conditions of the threefully made public, but there was a public commitment to

keeping the budget deficit down to 4 per cent of gross domestic product. If local bud-get deficits are included the public deficit is over 11 per ent at the moment. Stopping the pay-outs is not an alternative, with miners, ing government income.
"The sum could run into billions of markka," he

soldiers, pensioners, students all demanding that President Boris Yeltsin make good the many pre-election promises he made them. The wages ar-rears debt to workers in state industries is 29 irillion roubles (24 billion).
Cash-strapped industry is already paying suppliers in barter arrangements, which

lower the cost of the goods being sold. One incentive to being sold. One meantive to better tax collection is a de-cree that Mr Yeltsin signed entifling the tax police to half of any additional revenues they collect from an audit. Veronic Misiutina, tax

manager of Price Waterhouse told the Moscow Times: "But if the President is trying to improve collections, and giving 50 per cent to the tax in-Individuals are less easy to spector, how are they going to track down. Monthly tax collec-

Alcohol ruling proves hard to swallow

Finnish cabinet resists EU call for more imports, says JON HENLEY

HE Finnish govern-ment, to the delight of its famously hard-drinking but sorely harddone-by citizens, has a seri-ous alcohol problem. Finance minister Sauli Nimisto admitted this week

he may have difficulty balancing the country's 1997 budget if the European Commission continues to insist that Finland lift its tough restrictions on per-sonal alcohol imports. If the curbs are eased, Mr Nimisto argues, Finland's punitive alcohol duties which account for 9 per cent of all tax revenue — will al-most certainly have to be lowered, significantly dent

Lurocats

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1

BADNEWS -THEY

RESTRICTIONS ON

BOOZE IMPORTS

WANTUS TO SCRAPTHE

said. "Filling the gap would be a very major task." (The markka is worth about

17p.)
Dedicated Finnish
drinkers, thousands of
whom travel daily to neighbouring Sweden on "booze
cruises" to take advantage
of daily fore prices, and of duty-free prices, are allowed to import 15 litres of beer, five litres of wine

and one litre of spirits from any EU county without pay ing extra tax. The Commission wants those limits raised to 30 litres, 18 litres and three litres respectively by Janu-ary, and brought fully in line with the rest of the EU

"That would be almost bound to prompt a major reduction in alcohol taxes — and therefore alcohol prices — in Finland," one of the countries leading daily newspapers, Ilta-Sanomat,

said gleefully.

"Prices would have to be cut to near Danish or German levels to prevent a ver-itable stampede to the continent." It is a bitter pill for the

Finnish government to swallow, but one Finland's oppressed boozers would guzzle happily.

They currently pay an extra £2.50 in duty on every litre of wine they buy, while

the price of a standard bottle of spirits can be 87 per cent pure tax. By contrast, seven of the EU's 15 member states charge no fixed tax on wine at all, and the average duty on a bottle of spirits is about

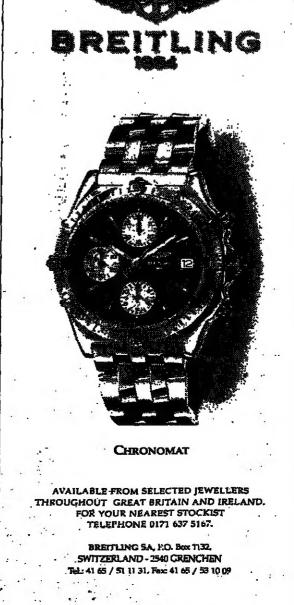
Pruning booze prices to about 30 per cent — would nearly balve alcohol tax revenue. Ilta-Sanomat estimated, while a reduction to German levels would cut

revenues by 85 per cent. But the Finnish govern-ment has not given up yet. Talks are under way with the Commission, and the case may yet end up in the

European Court of Justice. Exorbitant alcohol prices, the government has repeatedly argued, are needed to protect the Finns from themselves. Lowering them to the same level as Germany could produce a 100 per cent interest in con-sumption, it claims, with some gruesome social consequences.

"If we have to change, it must be done gradually," Mr Niinisto said. "Taxes and booze are such a famthat is very hard to estimate the behavioural impact of





INSTRUMENTS FOR PROFESSIONALS Financial Editor: Alex Brummer Telephone: 0171-239-9610 Fax: 0171-833-4456

FinanceGuardian

No-one prospered more than the Suharto clan as Indonesia escaped from grinding poverty. Eat noodles, smoke a kretek, buy a mobile phone or a Mercedes, and, reports PAUL HUNT in Jakarta, you contribute to . . .



A First Family affair

in a crowd of thousands at the launch in Jakarta of the Cakra and Ramayana epic whose names now adorn two sleek saloon cars. Organisers laid on statuesque models, traditional wayang puppet shows, dan-cars in old Javanese costume and a banquet for the hungry. Yet the host of the party, Bambang Trihatmodjo, second son of Indonesia's President Su-

harto, hardly cracked a smile. Local businessmen know 42-year-old Bambang as a reticent person, short of social confidence, who keeps his feel ings to himself. But it was tempting to link his dour demeanour on this occasion to the car wars with his siblings

that threaten the short-term profits of his enterprise. Bambang is sinking a cool billion dollars into making the two saloons in a joint venture with South Korea's Hyundai for a cost to customers of between US\$17,000 (£10,900) and \$20,000. Unfortunately his

OUR government | flamboyant younger brother, erally known as Tommy, pulled a fast one on him. A decree issued by President Suharto in February allows 33-year-old Tommy to market a "national car" made entirely in South Korea without paying the usual duties on imported parts or an onerous 35 per cent luxury tax that hits other producers. As a result, the Timor, as Tommy's car is

> three months' time, selling for about half the cost of his The ruling stirred a mixture of derision and indignation. 'An example of nepotism and irrational decision-making on a grand scale," wrote David Roche of Independent Strategy, echoing a sentiment heard widely around the streets and offices of Jakarta. "It's a joke. They import a totally built-up car, sell it lobreak." fumed an Indonesian

cally and pocket the tax business consultant Far more is at stake than Bambang's or Tommy's profit margins. The saga of the

named, will hit the market in national car has turned an unflattering spotlight on affairs at the heart of a family dynasty which now shapes the fate of 190 million people in the world's fourth most populous state, sprawling across 13,000 islands, two time zones

> resources. The controversy could hardly have surfaced at a more sensitive time. An announcement this month that President Suharto would fly to Europe for medical checks sufficed to drop the Jakarta stock exchange 2.3 per cent, a sobering jolt for a market that

had been top of the pops

and a vast wealth of natural

among emerging markets over much of the past six

The death in April of his wife of 48 years and closest confidante only underlined his own advancing years. After three decades of iron fisted rule, trading democracy for order and economic development, President Suharto, in the time-honoured tradition of Javanese monarchs, shows no sign of surrendering powe or revealing who he would pick as his heir should cir-

cumstances force him to do so. "People are jittery," observes Rizal Ramli, an econo mist and consultant. "Power has increasingly been centralised round one man, so the possibility of change creates a lot of uncertainty."

ANGING in the balance are the social achieve ents on which Mr Suharto has staked his claim to a place in history. Out of the political chaos and decay bequeathed by Sukarno, the charismatic first president of independen power, Mr Suharto has forged the basis of a prosperous

In the last 30 years, Indoneincome countries, notching up enviable growth and seem ingly destined for ever more spectacular results. "The avbetter off than he was five ter off in five years' time,"

be, with more than \$100 billion in outstanding loans, yet startlingly good results in the 1995/6 financial year have eased World Bank unease over mounting trade deficits and looming inflation and increased confidence about its ability to keep up a near-flaw-

less record of repayment. For all practical purposes Indonesia has no legal system. yet foreign investors are surg-ing in, channelling ever more funds into ever bigger

This is an open and pragmatic country," explains Rolph. "Indonesia likes foreigners."

No one has prospered more than the first family. The international airport you land at was built by Bambang, Indo nesian analysts explain, mapping out the dimensions of one of the world's biggest business empires, with tentacle stretching to every corner of

the economy. The onward domestic flight you take is likely to be on the airline owned by Tommy. or the cab you take into the city may belong to eldest daughter Siti Hardlynnti Rukmana. known as Mbak (sister) Tutut, The toll road that takes you into the city was built by her,

Est noodles or drink Jakar-ta's bottled water, smoke a kretek (Indonesia's clove ciga-rette), buy a mobile phone or a Mercedes, watch three of the five television channels, stay in Jakarta's Grand Hyatt, one of its smartest hotels, or shop in the mall downstairs and you are contributing in some way to a business either owned by the family or by one of a tiny group of Chines business magnates whose conglomerates are entwined with

Starting out from a modest irading company set up by Bambang 15 years or so ago, the children now market crude oil, run gas pipelines, ship liquefled natural gas and build billion-dollar petrochemical plants. F-16 fighters purchased from the US are said to have come in through one family enterprise, the export of birds' nests for Chines soup go out through another.

'Are they the richest people in the world? No-one knows. It wouldn't surprise me' - financial analyst Many of the family's compa-nies, particularly Bambang's, are professionally managed, market analysts say, but the family connection is a crucial advantage. Two years ago, an executive order transferred four satellites and a commu cations network, with a proba ble value of several hundred million dollars, from state ownership to Satelindo, a com pany majority owned by Bambang, apparently at no cost to the recipient.

"Are they the richest people in the world? No-one knows," concludes a financial analyst One estimate suggests they now control assets of \$5

Businessmen in downtown Jakaria skyscrapers are sion issue after the announcement that President Suharto needed medical checks jolted the



'Capital inflows quickly could become capital outflows, putting pressure on - World Bank report the economy

hillion, another attributed to the CIA suggests the figure should be \$30 billion. "It wouldn't surprise me," the ar

alyst shrugs.

Local researchers tracing the confusing web of interest believe Bambang is involved in at least 140 companies with net worth of \$1.2 billion and Tutut has links to 100 compa-nies with even higher net worth of \$2 billion. Tommy came in a distant third, linked to 70 companies with net worth of some \$600 million. The children's dazzling

business successes are a political headache. An acute difficulty confronting Mr Suharto as he ponders the possible candidates to succeed him, is finding anyone sufficiently loyal and forceful to protec the family's interests from the pressures most Indonesians predict will break them up or at least redistribute big

An outpouring of popular support for ex-president Su-karno's daughter Megawati in recent weeks starkly under-lines the problem. Her modest manners and unpretentious style is meat and drink to struggling workers and ambi-tious middle classes, weary of pervasive corruption and nursing long-smouldering resentment over the privi-leges of the children.

Heavy-handed military measures against Megawati have badly backfired to enhance her popularity. "Never before in the history of the New Order has there been such widespread support for an opposition figure," warns economic analyst Rizal Ramli.

Local and foreign businessmen are now keenly conscious that the government's handling of this issue casts a shadow over the performance of the economy. Sitting in Jafrom the action, bankers and businessmen were unaware of the beating administered by troops to pro-Megawati dem-onstrators earlier this month. A prompt dip on the Jakarta stock exchange, however, left no doubt of the impact of CNN film of the event on investors

Growing dependence on for eign funds to finance Indonesia's deflcits leaves the economy more vulnerable to investor confidence than even a decade ago. "Capital inflows quickly could become capital

outflows, putting pressure of the economy," the latest World Bank report drily

If Mr Suharto and his children are sensitive to such con-cerns, they do not much show it. Far from slowing down their accumulation of projects and businesses, the children appear to be accelerating it.
often with little obvious
regard for the economic
merits.

And popular dissent on the streets of Indonesian cities would matter less to the business community if it were not for the hairline cracks that hawk-eyed analysts now detect in the structure of the New Order establishment as a result of sibling rivalry over

the spoils of development. The national car is a case in point, Bambang, less than pleased at Tommy's coup, lob-bied for identical privileges, to no avail. Tutut also reportedly jumped into the fray, pitching for a car venture of her own. Indonesia would soon have six national cars, local wags joked, one for each of Mr Su-

HE matter is for Japanese car who hitherto the market and American manufacturers trying to break into it. The Japanese, in particular, may have thought the billion dollars' worth of annual aid that their country gives might have earned a more sympathetic hearing. Both are threatening to fight the case in the World Trade

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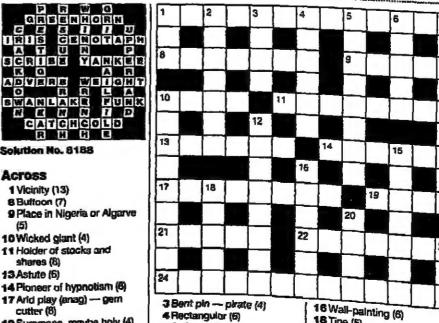
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Organisation.
The issue is even less amusing for Indonesians, particu-larly troubled by the lack of sound advice going up to the president and the controversial decisions coming down from him. "We feel what is at stake is our national survival. stake is our national survival.
The format of the New Order
designed to answer the challenges of the 1960s and 1970s is
no longer capable of dealing
with challenges ahead," asserts political scientist Dewi
Fortuna Anwar. "President
Suharto has done symething Suharto has done something quite spectacular. It is unfortunate his rather shortsighted favours for immediate family members could actually undermine the good things he has done.

Quick Crossword No. 8189



3 Bent pin - pirate (4) 4 Rectangular (6) 5 Delivered from worry or

6 Have an obligation, should 7 Jerboa (6.3)

10 Swing as a pendulum (9)

18 Tine (5)

20 Roughage (4)

23 First Lady? (3)

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easyJet Indonesia he forced out of future.

sia has struggled out of grind-ing poverty into the lower ranks of the world's middleerage Indonesian knows he is years ago and stands to be betnotes ING Barings' Bill Rolph. Asia's biggest debtor it may

24 Selad dish (3,10) 2 Plunge into liquid (7)

22 Fish often tinned (7)

cutter (8)

21 Concerning (5)

1 Fruit with hard shell (3)

19 Summons, maybe holy (4)

12 Blood-feud (8) 15 Drink, usually dry (7) O Published by Guardian Newspapers Levited at 119 Ferfingdon Road, London EC1R 3ER, and at 164 Desnegate, Manchester MSD 2RR, Printed at the Guardian Press Centre, 2 Milliambour, London E14 SNG, West Ferry Printers Ltd. 255 West Ferry Road, London E14 MW, and at Trafford Park Printers, Longondge Road, Manchester MT 15L, Te-Druckord Grabit, Admiral-Rosentiahl-Simpse 1, 6078 Neu-

Isenburg/Zeppelleneum, Germany, Mord Edeir, 15/21 me du Ceire, 6/69 - 53052 Raubab, Ceden 1, France, for and on behalf of the Guardian and Manchenter Evening Name PUC, 48,616, Saturday, July 27, 1996.

London I dephano 0171-276 2332 Teisa 881746 (Guard Gr Fax 3171-937 2114: 1071-833 9942, Telephano soles 0171-611 9000